Hafa Adai!

Torres hopeful Marianas Southern Airways will open door to others. PAGE 3

8 Beach Road pavilions get solar panels. PAGE 14

$1

Saipan Tribune

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ON RETIREES' 25% PENSION

Atalig: IPI talks may be key

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Atalig

» 'Of $481.8M ARPA money, $348M already committed'

Finance Secretary David DLG Atalig is hopeful that the outcome of talks with the new investor of Imperial Pacific International (CNMI) LLC may be the answer to the funding source for the 25% pension of government retirees in 2023 fiscal year.

At the House of Representatives Ways and Means Committee hearing Wednesday for the Department of Finance's budget for fiscal year 2023, Atalig also disclosed that of the $481.8 million that the CNMI received from the American Rescue Plan Act, they have already

See ATALIG on Page 4

What to know as the Jan. 6 panel goes public

By MARY CLARE JALONICK
ASSOCIATED PRESS

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House committee investigating the Jan. 6 insurrection at the U.S. Capitol will hold the first in a series of hearings laying out its initial findings Thursday night, a highly anticipated look at

See WHAT on Page 4

Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games chief executive officer Ben Babauta, fourth from left, and IT&E general manager Rose Soledad, sixth from left, and their teams pose for a souvenir picture after IT&E committed yesterday to donate more than $100,000 worth of fiber services to the NMPMG to support the livestream of all events from June 17 to 25, 2022.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

COMMUNITY VULNERABILITY

LEGEND:
- **Red:** Least safe
- **Orange**
- **Yellow**
- **Blue**
- **Green:** Safest

Source: Office of the Governor

IT&E donates over $120K in services to NMPMG

IT&E announced yesterday that it is donating more than $120,000 worth of internet infrastructure, technical support, communication services, and post-production assistance to the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games, making it a platinum tier sponsor.

As the pioneer telecommunications company in the CNMI, IT&E embraces this opportunity to "Rise Up To The Challenge" and make significant contributions that

See IT&E on Page 4

'BIKINI BOTTOM'

Members of Group 2 of the Joeten-Kiyu Public Library's summer reading program are seen creating their starfish and "Bikini Bottom" sand sculpture in celebration of CNMI Oceans Day at the shores of Sandy Beach Homes last Wednesday. The sand sculpture, which depicts a starfish and little "castles," was eventually the first-place winner of the competition.

LEIGH GASES

INSIDE

ASIA
A fire caused by suspected arson in South Korea's Daegu city kills at least seven people.

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OFF THE WALL
An Iditarod sled dog is found safe after disappearing from a checkpoint three months ago.

PAGE 18

LIFE & STYLE
Hawaii photographer Clark Little releases a book that chronicles his adventures in the ocean.

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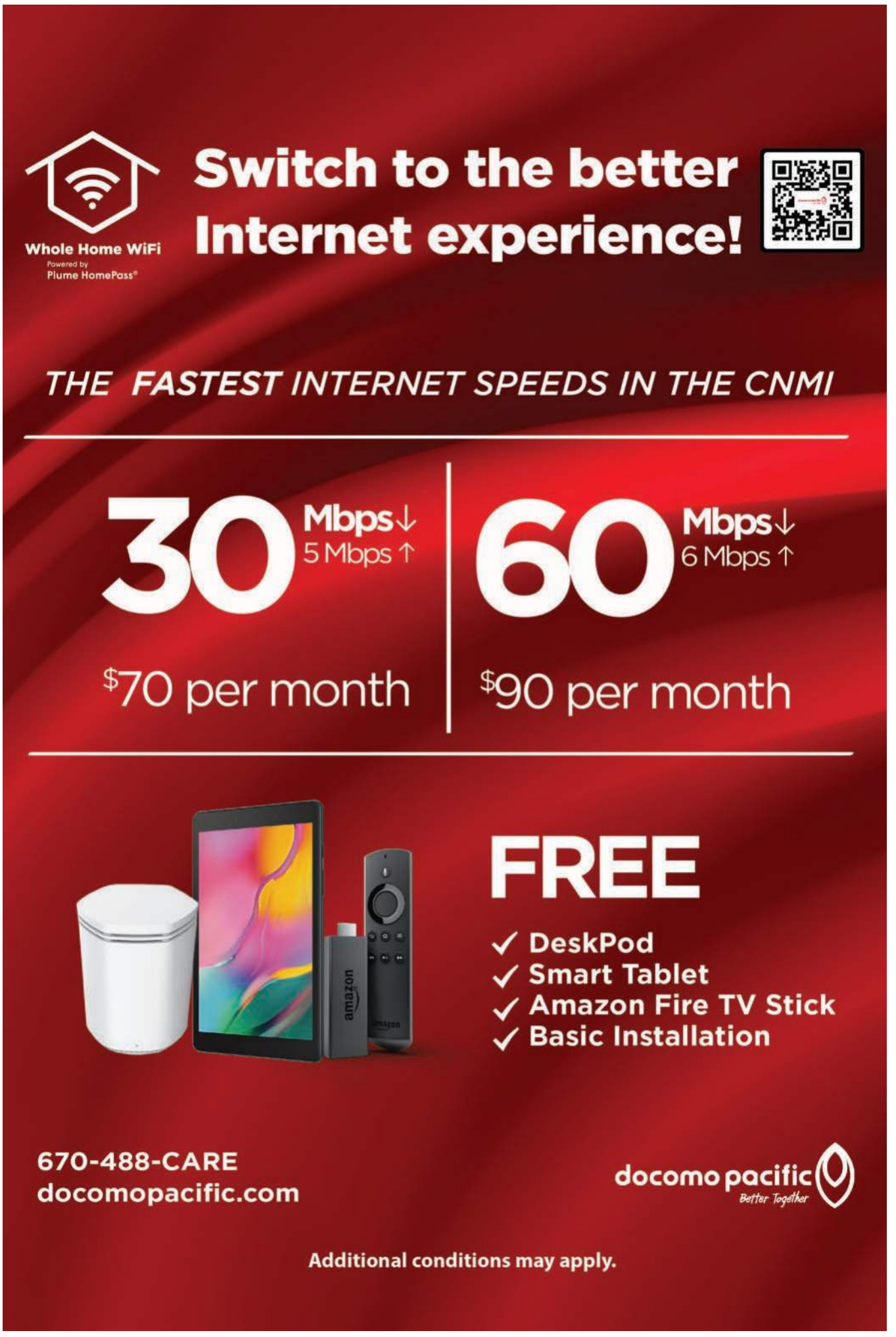

Local

Magofna resolution urges new $1,000 CUC voucher

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

Rep. Corina L. Magofna (D-Saipan) pre-filed Wednesday a resolution that strongly urges Gov. Ralph DLG Torres to issue a new $1,000 Commonwealth Utilities Corp. voucher to provide much needed financial relief to all qualified households in the CNMI.

Magofna

In her House Resolution 22-20 that is supported by seven other representatives, Magofna wants the $1,000 utilities voucher to be funded by American Rescue Plan Act money, in compliance with guidelines issued by the U.S. Treasury.

She pointed out in the resolution that the Commonwealth's fuel cost in 2021 was $5.17 per gallon on Saipan; $6.11 per gallon on Tinian; and $5.77 per gallon on Rota. As of today, she said, the fuel cost has significantly increased on all three islands, with the cost of fuel being above $6 per gallon on Saipan and well above $7 gallon on both Tinian and Rota. She expects fuel costs to continue to rise due to global issues beyond the CNMI's control, such as global inflationary pressures amid rising food and energy prices and disrupted supply chains following the pandemic; the war between Russia and Ukraine exacerbating supply chain issues, fuel crisis and sharply rising commodity prices; and faster inflation that is threatening global economic growth.

Last December, the Torres administration provided residential households with a $500 utilities voucher credited to CUC ratepayer accounts.

Releasing of PH passports

For Filipino citizens who renewed their passports last March, April, and May 2022, you can pick up your new Philippine passports at the Honorary Philippine Consulate General office at the Sun Palace Hotel tomorrow, June 11, or Sunday, June 12, 2022, between the hours of 10am to 12pm and 1pm to 5pm. Bring your old passport. For any inquiries, call (670) 285-4388 or (670) 483-6023. ***(PR)***

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Torres hopeful Marianas Southern Airways will open door

By FERDIE DE LA TORRE
ferdie_delatorre@saipantribune.com
REPORTER

With the CNMI's newest interisland airline, Marianas Southern Airways, to begin operations soon, Gov. Ralph DLG Torres is hoping this will open the doors for other airlines to come in.

In response to questions during a radio press briefing last week, Torres said that having more airlines here in the CNMI will be better for the economy, provide a more reliable interisland transportation system, and provide job opportunities for people.

"I hope that this will allow other airlines to see the CNMI as a potential investment and a profitable investment to bring in," he said.

Marianas Southern Airways is a joint venture between Saipan's MP Enterprises and Southern Airways Express, one of America's largest regional airlines. It is expected to commence operations next month and will launch over 90 weekly flights serving Saipan, Tinian, Rota, and Guam.

Southern Airways' interline agreement with United Airlines provides them the ability to make a seamless reservation from Tinian, Rota, or Saipan to anywhere in the United network.

At the moment, the CNMI's lone interisland airline is Star Marianas Air, which Torres acknowledged last week. He thanked Star Marianas for being in the CNMI throughout the years. "I want to thank their partnership as well. We have to acknowledge that," he said.

The governor said the CNMI did experience challenges when Star Marianas had to shut down their operation during a critical time, which was during the holidays.

Torres said that new airlines like Marianas Southern Airways, with their background in Hawaii and other areas in the nation, is the type of business that people need here, creating a more competitive playing field that will hopefully result in better services, cheaper price, and more reliable flights.

As for the issue that tourists want more activities and attractions at night, Torres said he is not going to tell stores to open up more hours at night as it's their business decision.

The governor assured that if it is feasible for retailers and stores to keep late hours, they will open 24/7 if there are enough number of tourists to sustain the economy and their business plan.

"I want to thank all our business partners for opening up and I thank them for opening as late as they can. With that said, I hope other businesses can open up and give tourists more opportunities to enjoy the CNMI," he said.

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The Mobility Space is
Getting Greener
in the Northern Mariana Islands
The mobility space is getting greener in the Northern Mariana Islands, as Enterprise Saipan announced today that it has acquired hybrid vehicles as part of its fleet of vehicles serving Saipan.
This investment not only supports demand for safe and reliable mobility options during the COVID-19 crisis but also demonstrates Enterprise's commitment to supporting local economies and driving forward environmentally friendly modes of transportation across the islands as they move out of travel restrictions.
Enterprise Saipan also upholds its commitment to maintaining the highest standards of cleanliness in the car rental industry through theimplementation of the Enterprise Complete Clean Pledge.
The Pledge further enhances cleaning protocols across Enterprise Holdings' brands and comprehensive portfolio of transportation options. This includes vehicle washing, vacuuming, general wipe down, and sanitizing with a disinfectant that meets leading health authority requirements, with particular attention to more than 20 high-touch points.

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SHRM membership meeting to focus on CNMI labor rules

The CNMI Chapter of the Society for Human Resource Management will host a general membership meeting on June 23, 2022, that will feature CNMI Department of Labor regulations.

The meeting will take place at the Hyatt Regency Saipan Ballroom starting at 12pm. Doors will open at 11:15am.

Jacqueline A. Nicolas, an administrative hearing officer at CNMI DOL, will be discussing applicable CNMI DOL regulations as it applies to administrative cases and hearings for labor and compliance agency cases.

This meeting will include lunch. Seating is limited. To register, please sign up here.

The following fees apply:

■ $25 for members

■ $35 for non-members

One person per one entry. One representative may submit multiple entries for each participant under their company.

SHRM is the world's largest association devoted to human resource management. The Society serves the needs of HR professionals and advances the interests of the HR profession. Founded in 1948, SHRM has more than 250,000 members in over 140 countries, and more than 575 affiliated chapters.

The CNMI Chapter is affiliated with the national organization. ***(PR)***

Dawei Cai to serve as BJU summer orientation leader

GREENVILLE, SC—Dawei Cai, a Health Sciences major from Saipan, will serve as a group leader at Bob Jones University during its summer orientation events on June 17-18 and 24-25 or international new student orientation held on Aug. 14-19.

Cai

Orientation leaders are upperclassmen paired with faculty and administrators to guide participants through summer orientation, a two-day event hosted for incoming freshmen and new students before the start of the fall semester.

Orientation leaders connect with students before they arrive on campus, prepare the residence halls, lead discipleship group meetings, speak in student sessions, and help with student advising. These student leaders gain valuable leadership skills, develop working relationships with faculty and administrators, and enhance their resumes while giving back to the university community.

"We believe peers have a significant influence on peers," said Rebecca Weier, director of Student Engagement and Success at BJU. "The orientation leaders we have assembled for this year's summer orientation are top-notch. They have excelled academically in their fields of study as well as made a significant impact here on campus through their discipleship efforts and extra-curricular activities. They are eager to make new friends of incoming students."

Located in Greenville, South Carolina, Bob Jones University is a regionally accredited Christian liberal arts school that offers over 100 undergraduate and graduate programs in religion, education, fine arts and communication, arts and science, health professions, and business.

BJU has over 3,000 students. ***(PR)***

FIELD TRIP

Kensington Hotel Saipan staff and the 45 participants from the CNMI Center for Living Independently pose for a picture at Kensington Hall after their baking demonstration last Friday.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

IT&E

From Page 1

are essential to hosting a successful event, the company said in a statement. IT&E is excited to be a platinum sponsor and witness this historical event, it added.

"The Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games will have a positive impact for both the participating athletes and all our island communities. Sports have a way of forging connections and friendships. We're proud to do our part so that viewers in the region and around the world will be able to take part from afar," said Rose Soledad, general manager, IT&E CNMI.

The full Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games schedule of events can be viewed at the NMPMG Facebook page and website, northernmarianas2022.com. ***(PR)***

ATALIG

From Page 1

committed about $348 million to different projects.

On the unfunded 25% retirees' pensions this upcoming fiscal year, Atalig said he is hoping that they can generate casino Business Gross Revenue Tax to cover this need, which is estimated at $13 million, but he added that he cannot bank on the result of the negotiations with the new IPI investor until that is inked and blessed by the Commonwealth Casino Commission.

"I've been informed about the negotiations. And so that's hopeful for the 25%. Other than that, we don't have a funding source [for the retirees 25%]," said Atalig said, without elaborating on the IPI discussions.

Under a settlement agreement in Betty Johnson's class action against the CNMI government and the NMI Retirement Fund a few years ago, the CNMI government agreed to make annual payments sufficient to enable the Settlement Fund to pay no less than 75% of the retirees' pension benefits. The 25% benefit payment and bonus payment are voluntary from the CNMI government, and are not required under the Johnson settlement agreement.

For this year, Atalig said, he used the Community Disaster Loan to set aside the $14 million for the retirees' 25%. "Unless the Legislature gives me flexibility to utilize funds to help in the 25% or give the governor that authority, then I will do my best to continue that," he said.

In the meantime, Atalig said, he does not have the authority to pay the 25% without any funding source.

The CNMI received the Community Disaster Loan from the Federal Emergency Management Agency. The Finance secretary had previously stated that the use of that loan to cover the 25% shortfall in the CNMI retirees' pension is allowable and is part of the CNMI's spending plan for that loan.

In response to questions from Ways and Means Committee chair Rep. Donald Manglona (Ind-Rota), Atalig said they are still working on the details of the availability of ARPA regarding requests from different departments and agencies.

He said the main budget submission last April was to cover and make sure that 20% of all government employees' salaries were covered through ARPA to tide the government over while local revenues get back to pre-pandemic levels.

Atalig said what has been spent since half the year of fiscal year 2021 was ARPA, as well as the full fiscal year this year for all staff across the government to ensure that the Commonwealth gets out of austerity.

The only major change in terms of the ARPA spending plan actually were two items—the capital projects fund section 604 and the unallowable matching fund for Medicaid, he added.

On capital projects fund section 604, Atalig said they thought it would all go to water, sewer, and broadband projects. But as the U.S. Treasury put out its final interim rule and the final rule of the guidelines for ARPA, section 604 became strictly 100% for broadband. "So our plan with these funds shifted," said Atalig, adding that they are now working on a major broadband master plan for the whole Commonwealth, including broadband and communications going toward the Northern Islands.

For section 604, the total ARPA funding was $14,285,714.

On Medicaid matching issue, the Finance secretary said the major component that was unallowable that they included in their ARPA spending plan was the Medicaid match.

"We are not able to use ARPA for local Medicaid match. And so that put some funds available for ARPA in the different pockets of the spending plan," he said.

WHAT

From Page 1

evidence the panel has been gathering for the last year.

With the televised hearings, the seven Democrats and two Republicans on the nine-member panel hope to grab the attention of the American public and drive home the sheer violence of that day in 2021, as some have attempted to downplay the attack. And they plan to use the more than 1,000 interviews they have conducted to spotlight people who played pivotal roles in the siege—and to show that it was a deliberate, unprecedented attempt to block the certification of Joe Biden's victory.

The committee will sort through the mountain of information it has collected into different hearing topics, from domestic extremism to security failures to what former President Donald Trump was doing in the White House that day as hundreds of his supporters brutally pushed past police and forced their way into the Capitol.

Thursday's prime-time hearing will be both an overview of the investigation and a preview of the hearings to come. It will also look at domestic extremism, with testimony from British filmmaker Nick Quested, who recorded members of the far-right Proud Boys as they stormed the building, and Caroline Edwards, a U.S. Capitol Police officer who was one of the first people injured in the riot as the Proud Boys and others pushed past police.

What to know about the House's investigation ahead of the hearings:

HOW WE GOT HERE

The House panel was formed last summer after Senate Republicans blocked the formation of an independent Jan. 6 commission that would have had an even number of Republicans and Democrats and operated outside of Congress. When that proposal failed, Speaker Nancy Pelosi created a Democratic-led panel to investigate the attack. The House approved the formation of the committee in June 2021, and the panel started its work within weeks.

The Jan. 6 panel's two Republicans—Wyoming Rep. Liz Cheney and Illinois Rep. Adam Kinzinger, both frequent critics of Trump—joined the committee at Pelosi's invitation. House GOP leader Kevin McCarthy pulled all of his members from the panel after Pelosi rejected some the members he selected.

Cheney, the panel's vice chairwoman, and Kinzinger have firmly aligned themselves with the Democrats on the probe, saying their duty to investigate rises above partisanship. Other Republicans decry the investigation as another partisan effort to go after Trump.

FOR HISTORY

The hearings could be politically risky for Democrats, who face significant headwinds from the GOP in this November's midterm elections. While many voters are most concerned about inflation, education or other household issues, the Democrats on the committee—including some who face tough reelection bids this fall—say they hope people don't lose sight of what happened on Jan. 6.

The attempt to subvert democracy isn't over, they argue, as many Americans still incorrectly believe that Trump won the election and some states around the country have moved to replace election officials and politicians who certified Biden's win.

And Trump, who told his supporters to "fight like hell" at the rally the morning of the insurrection, is considering another White House bid.

Democratic Rep. Jamie Raskin of Maryland, a member of the panel, said Tuesday the measure of success would be "whether we are able to preserve American democracy and our institutions—it's a long-term test."

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REQUEST FOR PROPOSALS
PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-003-19

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT GENERAL AIRPORT TYPHOON YUTU FENCE REPAIRS AND REPLACEMENTS

The Commonwealth Ports Authority (CPA) is soliciting proposals for the procurement, furnishing and installation of chain link fencing and accessories (commercial and industrial grades), for the installation and general Typhoon Yutu repair/replacement work of its chain-link fences per this Scope of Work and associated Contract Documents, located at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. Project shall be in compliance with all current federal, state and local government agencies' rules and regulations. This procurement is made in accordance with the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations Section 40-50-225.

The CPA Executive Director hereby determines that the use of an invitation for bid is neither practical nor advantageous to the CPA because CPA wishes to acquire services and products that cannot be evaluated by cost alone, or that factors other than price, such as technical expertise and/or the quality of materials, should be considered in determining the successful contractor.

Proposals shall be submitted no later than **5:00 P.M. LOCAL TIME, FRIDAY, JULY 8, 2022**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2ND floor of the Arriver Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. All proposals shall become property of CPA.

Contractors are requested to submit one original and four (4) copies of their proposals, sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: **"Proposal for General Airport Typhoon Yutu Fence Repairs and Replacements, Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, CPA-SA-003-19".**

The Scope of Work (SOW) may be picked up at the CPA Accounting Office upon payment of **$50.00** per package. Project approach and cost must be within the parameters of the established SOW. Any deviation from the SOW, a proposal based on reduced SOW or a proposal that exceeds what is required by the SOW, may be grounds for immediate disqualification of the offeror's proposal package. Criteria for scoring proposals and proposal submission requirements are detailed in the Proposal Requirement section of the SOW.

Questions should be submitted to the CPA Executive Director, Christopher S. Tenorio, in writing, or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmiports.com at least ten (10) days prior to the proposal submission date. Contractors are welcome to inspect the facilities that are not within any secured locations; however, site visits for the Air Traffic Control Tower and ARFF Training Facility should be coordinated with Ms. Prater at telephone number 670-237-6500 or via the email address written above.

Each proposal shall be accompanied by a proposal bond issued by a CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the total proposal amount. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Upon award, contractor shall execute performance and payment bonds for 100% of the contract amount from a CPA approved surety prior to commencement of work.

The Project is being financed by funds from the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of proposals. CPA reserves the right to hold the contract award for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of receipt of proposals. Therefore, proposers and their subcontractors must hold their proposal prices in effect for up to 180 calendar days.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d–4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Request for Proposals; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; or (c) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said proposals if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: May 13, 2022

COMMONWEALTH UTILITIES CORPORATION
OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

INVITATION FOR BIDS
CUC-IFB-22-029

REPLACEMENT OF SADOG TASI WWTP CLARIFIER

The Office of the Executive Director, Commonwealth Utilities Corporation (CUC) is soliciting competitive sealed bids from qualified firms for the Replacement of Sadog Tasi Clarifier Replacement in Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

The intent of the contract is for the Contractor to provide all labor, equipment, supplies and materials necessary to complete the scope of work which consists of; installation of a new circular clarifier mechanism and effluent launder box, construction of a sloped concrete floor, and other miscellaneous features. The work shall include; the dewatering and cleaning of aeration basin #3 and the clarifier, routing process flow and maintaining conditions during the construction period, and returning process flow from the aeration basin to the clarifier. The work shall be completed with minimal disruption to the daily operation of the Sadog Tasi Waste Water Treatment Plant. CUC requires the Project to be completed in 365 calendar days from date of award of contract.

The project is funded by a grant from the United States of Environmental Protection Agency (USEPA). The award of this project is contingent upon receipt of approval for project award from USEPA.

Prospective Bidders must pre-register with the CUC Procurement & Supply Division. The Bid Package may be obtained from the CUC Procurement and Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, Saipan, between 7:30 a.m. to 11:30 a.m. and 12:30 p.m. to 4:00 p.m., Monday through Friday, except on government observed holidays, upon completion of registration and presentation of a receipt evidencing a non-refundable payment to the CUC Treasury Section, by cash, check or credit card in the amount of $100.00 (non-refundable) for one IFB package set.

A Pre-Bid Conference followed by site visits will be held on **June 17, 2022 at 11:00 AM (ChST)** at the CUC Main Conference Room, 3rd Floor, Room No.17, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building.

One (1) original and five (5) copies of the bid MUST be submitted in a sealed envelope marked **"CUC-IFB-22-029, Replacement of the Sadog Tasi Clarifier"** to the CUC Procurement & Supply Office, 3rd Floor, Room No. 3, Joeten Dandan Commercial Building, P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950, no later than **10:00 AM (ChST) on July 7, 2022,** at which time they will be publicly opened and read aloud. Bids mailed via postal or courier service must be received on or before due date and time or post-marked before due date and time. Bid shall be submitted on the provided Bid Forms. Bidders are required to complete all Bid Forms. Bidders may supplement this form as appropriate. Bids will be required to be submitted under a condition of irrevocability for a period of 60 days after submission. **Late submissions and conditional bids will not be considered.**

A Bid Guarantee of fifteen (15%) percent of the total bid price must accompany the bids. The security deposit may be in cash, certified check, cashier's check, or bid bond executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. *A Payment Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent and a *Performance Bond* of one hundred (100%) percent of the total bid price will be required upon the execution of the contract by the successful bidders. The Payment and Performance bond must be executed by a surety company holding a certificate of authority from the United States Secretary of Treasury as an acceptable surety. Surety Company must be authorized to do business in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

All insurers' questions, concerns and qualification shall be handled by the Department of Commerce Office of the Insurance Commissioner (OIC). The OIC is tasked with regulating and monitoring compliance to the CNMI's Insurance Code (Title 4, Division 7). *Bidders are required to submit a clearance from the OIC certifying their insurer of choice is in compliance with the CNMI's Insurance Code.*

Bidders are required to comply with all CNMI and applicable Federal Laws. This bid and the ensuing contract shall be executed pursuant to the CUC Procurement Regulations.

This Invitation for Bids does not commit CUC to the award of a contract or contracts, nor to pay any cost incurred in the preparation and submission of bids in anticipation of a contract. Bidders are advised that CUC assumes no responsibility in any act of omission on the part of the bidders due to lack of information or understanding of the bid requirements in the course of Contractor's preparation of a bid under the contract.

Questions or requests for clarification will be entertained only from registered Proponents and must be submitted in writing no later than **10:00 a.m. (ChST) on June 23, 2022** to Manny B. Sablan, CUC Purchasing Officer via email address, manny.sablan@cucgov.org with a copy to Westen Knudsen, Water/Wastewater Engineer at westen.knudsen@cucgov.org and Marcela Tenorio, CUC P&S, Senior Administrative Technician at marcela.tenorio@cucgov.org.

CUC reserves the right to reject any or all bids and waive any imperfection in the bid proposal in the best interest of CUC. All bids shall become the property of CUC.

GARY CAMACHO
Executive Director

MANNY B. SABLAN
Purchasing Officer

Kensington teaches CLI clients basics of baking

A Kensington pastry chef shows participants from the CNMI Center for Living Independently how to bake madeleine cookies last Friday during a field trip to Kensington Hotel Saipan. CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

A total of 45 participants from the CNMI Center for Living Independently learned how to bake madeleine cookies during a field trip to Kensington Hotel Saipan last Friday

The baking demonstration, held at the newly renovated Kensington Hall, was led by hotel pastry chefs Haena Kim, Sohyun Lim, and Daizy Choi. The CLI participants then grouped together and tried the process hands on by whisking eggs, mixing the powder, and piping the batter into the cookie mold. The participants were later able to bring home the cookies they made.

E-Land CEO Brian Shin and Kensington staff welcomed the group's visit. "We are glad that the center chose Kensington for the venue of the field trip, and wish all of [them] an enjoyable time," he said.

Lindsay Ahn, corporate social responsibility manager of E-Land, said, "Employees of E-Land properties visited the center last year and had fun [a] time with the consumers. When Susan Satur, the executive director of CLI, reached out to us for the field trip, it gave us [the] idea to have a little more experience than just [a] lunch buffet."

CLI is a non-profit organization run by and for individuals with disabilities. It is funded through a grant from the U.S Department of Health and Human Services. ***(Leigh Gases)***

NORTHERN MARIANAS COLLEGE
Procurement & Property Management Office

P.O. Box 501250 • Saipan, MP 96950 U.S.A.
Phone: (670) 234-5498 Ext. 6824 I www.marianas.edu

INVITATION FOR BIDS

ELECTRONIC GOLF CARTS
NMC IFB 22-0005

Northern Marianas College is soliciting competitive sealed bids for the procurement and delivery of Two (2) Electronic Golf Carts Equipment for Saipan Campus.

The bid specifications and Scope of Work packet may be pick up at the NMC Procurement Office, Bldg. P, commencing Monday, May 09, 2022 between the hours of 10:00-11:30 a.m. and 1:00-4:00 p.m.

Electronic packet, Anita Camacho email: anita.camacho@marianas.edu

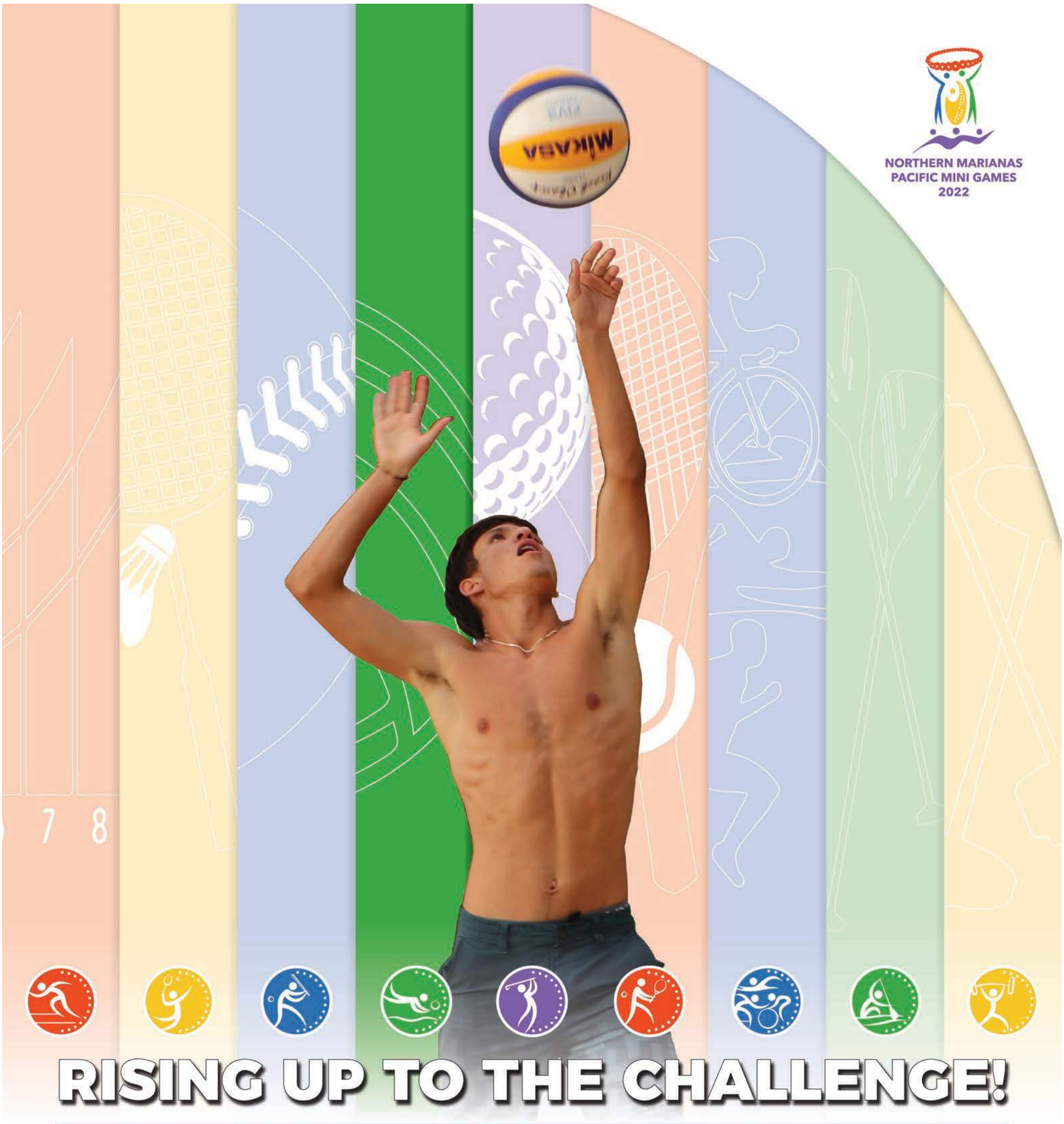
Bid submission
Procurement & Property Management Office, Bldg. P,
As Terlaje Campus Saipan
Due Date and Time: 10:00am, June 10, 2022, ChST

Paid for by 100% Federal Funds through USDA-Rural Development Community Facilities- Disaster Grant Case Number 62-005-91982292.

This solicitation does not constitute an offer and does not obligate the College in any way. The College reserves the right to reject any and/or all bid offers for any reason and waive any defect in said bids, or cancel in part or its entirety this IFB, if it deems, in its sole discretion, it is in the best interest of the College.

Approved by:

/s/ Anita Camacho
Procurement & Property Manager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SAIPAN STEVEDORE COMPANY, INC.
HOTEL ASSOCIATION OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
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RNV Construction • Saipan Shipping Company, Inc.
Tokio Marine Pacific Insurance • Island Cafe

Commonwealth Judiciary Administrative Office

Guma' Hustisia / Iimwal Aweewe / House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165 • Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone (670) 236-9700/9800 ⊠ Facsimile: (670) 236-9702 | Website: www.NMIjudiciary.gov

EMPLOYMENT OPPORTUNITY

The Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI) Judiciary is seeking a highly motivated individual for the position of:

PROCUREMENT OFFICER / PROGRAMS SPECIALIST

On the island of SAIPAN
Announcement # JVA22-025

DUTIES: The successful candidate will work under the general supervision of the Chief Justice and under the direct supervision of the Director of Courts or designee. Serving as a general lead for procurement and asset management, duties presume substantial participation in the planning and implementation of procurement activities, services, and events that support the CNMI Judiciary's goals and objectives. The following are required duties and responsibilities:

- Performs all functions necessary as lead for procurement matters with the Judicial Branch pursuant to the NMI Judiciary Rules of Procurement adopted on August 11, 2020, through Supreme Court Order No. 2020-ADM-0016-RUL, including those specifically set forth herein;
- Implements all programs and projects of the NMI Judiciary Office of Procurement;
- Oversees the receipt of inquiries and facilitates a rapid response system for matters involving procurement of services, goods, property and related assets
- Develops, plans, implements, and maintains procurement and asset management strategies;
- Oversees the design, planning, production, and dissemination of publications, program outlines, public reports, news releases, videos, newsletters, brochures, and other information related to procurement services and asset management;
- Drafts and updates internal operating procedures, including property and asset acquisition, maintenance, location, disposition and related management.
- Drafts letters, reports, memorandums, notices, financial statements, forms, templates, and standard documents to be used in procurement and asset tracking and management
- Researches and recommends best practices for internal controls and project enhancements, to increase efficiency, effectiveness, transparency, and accountability;
- Assists in the procurement process from planning to contracting, as necessary to fulfill the procurement needs of the Judiciary's operations and programs. Assistance will include drafting and/or reviewing procurement documents, such as purchase requisitions, requests for quotations, scope of work, invitations to bid, requests for proposals, advertisements, other supporting documentation, transmittals, notices to proceed, notices of award, and contracts. It will also include assisting with pre-award matters, such as selection committee creation, and after-contract monitoring of work and closing out contract documents;
- Performs data and electronic processing for procurement purposes on the Judiciary's designated platforms including but not limited to MUNIS, Laserfiche, Microsoft Office 365, and other database interface tools;
- Calendars and tracks all procurement matters and documents, and assists in the maintenance of procurement records, to ensure adherence to all applicable laws, regulations, and rules related to procurement;
- Assists with the workflow and processes of procurement evaluation phase(s), purchasing plans, payment schedules, and monitors compliance factors like administrative costs, insurance, and related items;
- Assists with the consistent review and lawful application of quality assurance controls, asset acquisitions, transfers, disposal, and management protocols, procurement practices, and related workflow;
- Assists with the identification of potential funding sources from federal, foundation, CNMI, and justice partners;
- Maintains and updates indexes and information on purchase requisitions, contracts, deliverables, inventories, fleets, suppliers/vendors, licenses, prices, transportation and shipping, and delivery timetables;
- Assists with the maintenance, implementation, and tracking of current and new timelines for projects, funding sources, activities and events;
- Provides technical assistance and training for designated programs, projects, and operating procedures that directly or indirectly affect workflow of the Office of Procurement;
- Maintains physical, digital, and indexed files of administrative documents and records pursuant to the Judiciary's document retention policy and all applicable laws, regulations, and rules;
- Provides effective phone etiquette and customer service skills and promotes consistent institutional identity of the Judiciary;
- Manages and records time and efforts;
- Adheres to and complies with all applicable policies, standards, and codes of ethical conduct; and
- Performs other duties as assigned.

QUALIFICATIONS AND REQUIREMENTS: The Procurement Officer must have a high school diploma or equivalent and must satisfy one of the following:

1) Have a bachelor's degree from a nationally accredited college or university with major course work in courts, public, or business administration or a related field, AND two (2) years of experience in the public or private sector wherein they were in a support position to senior management level role; or any equivalent combination of education, experience, and training which provides the minimum knowledge, abilities and skills;

OR

2) Have an associate's degree from a nationally accredited college or university in public or business administration or management or other related field AND have four (4) years' experience in relevant position.

The Procurement Officer/Program Specialist must:

- Have strong background in the use of computers, electronic devices, and standard office equipment;
- Be adept at public speaking and conducting group training;
- Have strong background in the use of data management software including but not limited to those that carry functions for standard word-processing, database storage and maneuverability, accounting spreadsheets, digital filing, and presentations. Experience with Word, Excel, PowerPoint, Acrobat, Justware, and Laserfiche preferred;
- Have strong background in web-based work, internet use, and electronic mail;
- Demonstrates strong organizational skills and attention to detail;
- Ability to handle multiple tasks and work effectively while maintaining composure under critical situations within tight time constraints;
- Have the ability to maintain sensitive information confidential;
- Have the ability to multitask and work under pressure; and
- Takes initiative and works both independently and cooperatively in a team environment.

Candidate must provide current police and traffic clearances and proof of eligibility to work in the CNMI. Must have a valid drivers' license and operate a court vehicle. Applicants given a conditional offer of employment with the CNMI Judiciary will be required to submit to urinalysis to screen for the illegal use of drugs prior to employment. "Illegal drug" means a substance whose use or possession is controlled by federal law but that is not being used or possessed under the supervision of a licensed health care professional. (Controlled substances are listed in Schedules I-V of 21 C.F.R. Part 1308.)

Education completed in foreign colleges or universities may be used to meet the job qualification requirements if the applicant can show that foreign education is comparable to education received in accredited educational institutions in the United States.

It is the responsibility of the applicant to provide such evidence when applying for Judiciary jobs. Education received in foreign colleges or universities will be considered if the candidate submits an evaluation of the coursework from: (a) an accredited U.S. college or university; or (b) a private professional organization specializing in interpretation of foreign educational credentials.

COMPENSATION AND TENURE: This position is appointed by and serves at the pleasure of the Chief Justice. The salary range will be $40,000 – 45,000 per annum.

INTERESTED PERSONS PERSONS Application forms are available at the Judiciary Administrative Office at the Guma Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice in Susupe, or at the Superior Court offices on Kotten Tinian and Centron Hustisia in Rota during normal business hours except on weekends and holidays. Completed applications, cover letter, and three references should be submitted to:

NMI Judiciary
Human Resources
Guma' Hustisia/Iimwal Aweewe/House of Justice
P.O. Box 502165
Saipan, MP 96950
Tel. (670) 236-9818
Cell. (670) 783-8592
Fax. (670) 236-9702
hr.judiciary@NMIjudiciary.com

This job announcement will remain open until filled and can be seen and a printable copy of the application downloaded at http://www.nmijudiciary.gov

The Judiciary reserves the right to rescind or cancel this JVA at any time without notice.

THE CNMI JUDICIARY IS AN EQUAL OPPORTUNITY PROVIDER AND EMPLOYER.

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[1]The following organizations evaluate foreign educational credentials for employment and other purposes. All operate on a fee based on the extent of the education to be evaluated; applicants shall bear the cost of evaluation.
(a) Credentials Evaluation Service P.O. Box 24679 Los Angeles, CA 90024
(b) Education Equivalency Evaluation World Education Services P.O. Box 745 Old Chelsea Station New York, NY 10011
(c) Education Credential Evaluators, Inc. P.O. Box 17499 Milwaukee, WI 53217
(d) International Consultants of Delaware, Inc. 914 Pickett Lane Newark, DE 19711
(e) Foundation for International Services, Inc. P.O. Box 230278 Portland, OR 97223.
While the Judiciary offer these addresses as information to applicants who request assistance in obtaining an evaluation of foreign education, these services are not preferred over others which may exist.

NMC info session today offers fee waiver

Individuals who participate in the Northern Marianas College's info session today, June 10, 2022, will qualify to have their NMC fall 2022 admission application fee and placement test fees waived. The waiver represents a savings of up to $75.

The info session will be held from 5:30pm to 6:30pm in the Olympio T. Borja Library at the college's As Terlaje campus. The session will cover topics that include financial aid options and admissions.

NMC offers several degree and certificate programs, including a bachelor of science in education (concentration in early childhood education, elementary education, rehabilitation and human services, or special education), bachelor of science in business management (concentration in accounting or without concentration); associate of arts in business, associate of applied science in business administration (emphasis in accounting, business management, or computer applications), associate of applied science in hospitality management, associate of arts in liberal arts (emphasis in education, health and physical education, pre-engineering, social work, or without emphasis), associate of science in nursing, associate of science in agriculture, associate of science in natural resource management, associate of applied science in criminal justice, and associate of science in fire science technology. The certificate programs at NMC include Basic Law Enforcement, Business Management, Computer Applications, Early Childhood Education, Fire Science Technology, Hospitality Operations, Nursing Assistant, and Small Business Management.

NMC's fall 2022 semester will begin on Aug. 15, 2022. A list of the classes that are offered can be found at www.marianas.edu. For additional information or inquiries, contact the Office of Admissions and Records at 237-6769/70/71/72 or email oar@marianas.edu. ***(NMC)***

Commonwealth Utilities Corporation

P.O. Box 501220, Saipan, MP 96950-1220 U.S.A.
Tel. Nos. (670) 664-4282 Fax (670) 235-5131

WATER QUALITY REPORT NOW AVAILABLE

Your 2021 CUC Water Quality Report is now available on-line! This year, we have a separate report for each island: Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. These reports contain important information about the source and quality of your drinking water.

Please open the following web sites to view what contaminants were detected in your water during 2021 and to learn more about your drinking water.

For Saipan, go to https://www.cucgov.org/spn2021
For Tinian, go to https://www.cucgov.org/tin2021
For Rota, go to https://www.cucgov.org/rota2021

If you need the report translated, wish to speak with someone about the report, or would like a paper copy delivered or emailed to you, please call CUC at (670) 664-4282.

RA AYOORA REPOODIL AMMWELIL SCHAAL

Repoodil yóómw 2021 CUC Ammwelil Schaal aa yoor online! Ráágh yeel, ai ayoora repoodngáli falúw kka: Seipél, Tchiliyól, me Luuta. E lo Ilól repood kkal arongorong ikka e impotanti reel milikka e toowow me ammwelil schaal iye ów ghal úlúmi.

Emmwel ubwe suughi website ikka e amwirimwiritiw ubwe amwuri meta kka e nngaw iye e lo Ilól yóómw schaal Ilól ráághil 2021 me ubwe metaff reel schaal iye ughal úlúmi.

Ngáli Seipél, mweteló reel https://www.cucgov.org/ spn2021
Ngáli Tchiliyól, mweteló reel https://www.cucgov.org/ tin2021
Ngáli Luuta, mweteló reel https://www.cucgov.org/rota2021

Ngáre u mwuschel rebwe seleti repood yeel, ngáre u tipáli ubwe kkapas ngáli escháy reel repood yeel, ngáre u mwuschel pappid yeel ngáre rebwe email-li ló ngálugh, faingi ló CUC me (670) 664-4282.

RIPOT KUÅLIDÅT HÅNOM ESTA MANAGUAHA

Iyon-mu 2021 na Ripot nu i Kuålidåt Hånom i CUC managuahayi på´gu giya on-line! På´gu na såkkan, in na´guahayi siparåo na ripot para kada´ isla: Saipan, Tinian, yan Luta. Esti na ripot siha masaguaniniyi impottånti na infotmasion put i tutuhonña yan kuålidåt put i Hånom ni un gigimin.

Put fabot baba i tinattiyi na web sites para un atan håfa siha mankutchinu ni masodda´ gi hålum i hånom-mu gi durântin 2021 na såkkan para un ke´tungu´ mås put i hånom ni un gigimin.

Para Saipan, hånao para https://www.cucgov.org/spn2021
Para Tinian, hånao para https://www.cucgov.org/tin2021
Para Luta, hånao para https://www.cucgov.org/rota2021

Kumu un nisisita i ripot para u matranslåda, ya malagu´ håo kumuentusi håyi put i ripot pat malagu´ håo kopian påppit u ma´entrega pat ma-email guatu para hågu, put fabot hågan i CUC gi (670) 664-4282.

HAPPY PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY!

Maligayang Araw Ng Kalayaan!

This weekend, we join the Filipino community of the CNMI in celebrating the 124th Anniversary of Philippine Independence!

As we join in celebration, let us also commemorate the contributions of our Filipino community in the Northern Mariana Islands, from socio-economic and cultural development to the desired economic progress of our islands throughout the years.

On behalf of the Commonwealth, we extend our hands and embrace as a sincere gesture of appreciation to our Filipino community in the spirit of goodwill, friendship, and understanding on this occasion of the *124th Philippine Independence Day Celebration.*

COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS
OFFICE OF THE GOVERNOR

FROM GOVERNOR RALPH DLG. TORRES, FIRST LADY DIANN T. TORRES, AND FAMILY

Mabuhay!

HAPPY 124TH INDEPENDENCE DAY

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Susupe: Tel: (670) 235-5379/80 6am - 10pm daily

Opinion

Hafa Adai!
Saipan Tribune
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EDITORIAL

Evidence mounts that Trump's campaign knew its vote-fraud claims were bogus

A core question regarding former President Donald Trump's extensive attempts to overturn the 2020 election was whether he actually believed the election-fraud lies he was peddling, or if he understood all along that he had legitimately lost, and he was merely using those lies to attempt to remain in office. A newly revealed email, in which a top Trump campaign official specifically directed fake Trump electors in Georgia to hide their scheme, indicates it was the latter.

The Capitol mob's attempt to prevent Joe Biden's confirmation as the elected new president on Jan. 6, 2021, was only the most obvious and violent manifestation of a multipronged effort by Trump's campaign to retain power. Part of that effort involved dozens of court filings alleging mass voter fraud, all of which failed.

The campaign, and Trump personally, also worked key state election officials behind the scenes. "I just want to find 11,780 votes, which is one more than we have" in losing Georgia, Trump infamously (and fruitlessly) told Georgia's Republican secretary of state. That request came pretty close to smoking-gun proof that Trump wasn't innocently delusional about the election outcome, but that he knew he'd lost and was trying to skew the results.

The email, obtained this week by The Washington Post and CNN, is further proof that the people running Trump's campaign also knew fully well what they were doing.

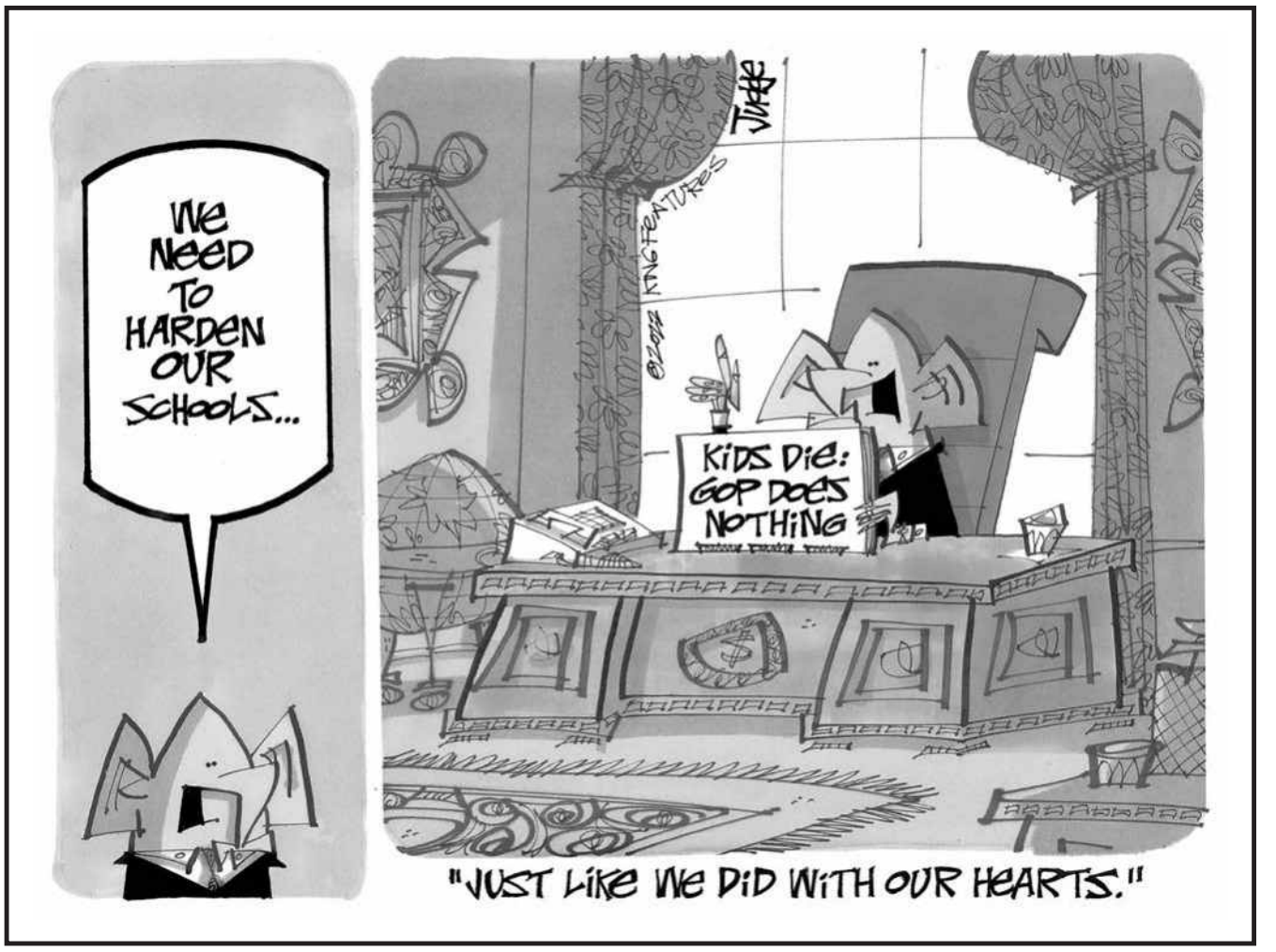
The email, part of a Justice Department investigation, is from Robert Sinners, a top Trump campaign official in Georgia, to a group of Republicans who were part of a scheme to file competing slates of electors for Trump in key states that he lost. The scheme was designed to sow doubt about the outcomes in those states by claiming these fake electors were the legitimate ones.

In the email, though, Sinners directed the fake electors to engage in a level of secrecy about their plan that makes it difficult to argue the participants genuinely believed they were the legitimate electors as they entered the Georgia statehouse to file their votes in mid-December of 2020.

"I must ask for your complete discretion in this process," Sinners wrote. "Your duties are imperative to ensure the end result—a win in Georgia for President Trump—but will be hampered unless we have complete secrecy and discretion." As part of that "discretion," he directed them to lie to statehouse security about why they were there, concocting fake meetings with Republican legislators. "Please, at no point should you mention anything to do with Presidential Electors or speak to media."

That doesn't sound like someone who is trying to stop the theft of an election, but rather is trying to steal one. That factor should figure into the upcoming House hearings regarding Jan. 6—and into the question of whether Trump and those around him should face prosecution.

© 2022 *St. Louis Post-Dispatch*



Climate change is a military problem for the US

By JAMES STAVRIDIS
Bloomberg Opinion

James Stavridis is a Bloomberg Opinion *columnist. A retired U.S. Navy admiral, former supreme allied commander of NATO, and dean emeritus of the Fletcher School of Law and Diplomacy at Tufts University, he is vice chairman of global affairs at the Carlyle Group. He is the author most recently of* To Risk It All: Nine Conflicts and the Crucible of Decision.

The U.S. military has its hands full at the moment with a vicious war in Ukraine and U.S.-China tensions over issues from human rights to sovereignty over the South China Sea. But it cannot delay taking action to address climate change, the most persistent strategic threat we face.

As a young naval officer, I took for granted the many beautiful home ports at which our fleet was berthed. Now, rising sea levels are threatening many of them. Both Norfolk, Virginia—the largest naval base in the world—and Mayport, Florida, stand to see significant loss of waterfront berths by mid-century. Climate change puts our strategic base network at risk.

It also raises demands on scarce naval resources, as it brings more unpredictable, highly destructive storms. As a naval commander, I've participated in many humanitarian relief efforts in response to natural disasters, including massive hurricanes in the U.S. Southeast and Caribbean, wildfires in the American West, tsunamis in the Pacific and storms in Central America. These disasters are only becoming more frequent.

At the same time, climate change poses a new national security challenge by expanding ocean geography. The Arctic (or the High North as our Canadian friends more eloquently call it) has been largely frozen over most of the year throughout recorded history. Now, the ice is breaking up, shipping lanes are opening for much of the year, and rich hydrocarbon deposits are becoming accessible. Thus, the Arctic is becoming a broader venue for great-power competition between Russia and NATO countries, including the U.S., Canada, Denmark, Iceland and Norway, and soon perhaps Sweden and Finland.

Climate change also heightens tensions between the developed world and developing countries in Latin America, Africa and South Asia by creating drought conditions in already fragile agrarian societies.

"Climate change is one of the most destabilizing forces of our time, exacerbating other national security concerns and posing serious readiness challenges," said Navy Secretary Carlos Del Toro. Both the Navy and the Army have recently released well-thought-out white papers on the subject, laying out the problems ahead.

What's most needed, however, are concrete ideas to address them.

First and foremost, the Defense Department must reduce its own carbon footprint. It needs to shift from hydrocarbon fuels to renewable energy sources for day-to-day transportation operations; harden its facilities, especially coastal ones, to withstand violent storms, erosion and rising sea levels; and increase its use of recycled products while reducing use of plastics. As the largest global organization in the world, these steps alone would have a measurable impact in lowering emissions.

A second urgent step is to apply the Defense Department's considerable research and development capability to climate challenges. To manage its emerging Arctic responsibilities, for example, the Pentagon must develop hardened seagoing vessels (cruisers and destroyers, for example) capable of surveillance and combat operations in the North; train ground and air forces for the harsh conditions of the Arctic coastline; consider a significant increase in icebreaker ships, some of them nuclear-powered; and set up logistics systems appropriate for the region.

To face not only the opening Arctic but also rising sea levels, violent weather and drought-induced humanitarian crises, the DOD needs a dedicated environmental think tank to generate ideas for things such as new military nuclear-energy systems, storm-hardened materials, pop-up housing and easily transportable food stocks. All of these should be designed to be moved globally via military air and naval capability.

The U.S. national security establishment must also cultivate greater international cooperation on climate challenges. The U.S. Coast Guard is especially well positioned to interact with other navies on fisheries enforcement, controlling pollution and dumping activities, and plastics removal.

The Defense Department should also work with other U.S. agencies, including the Department of Homeland Security (which houses the Coast Guard) on responding to national and international natural disasters. The Departments of State and Commerce and the Environmental Protection Agency all have strong environmental programs that could be synchronized with the DOD efforts. A joint interagency task force exists for counter-narcotics. Why not create one to work collectively on climate-related challenges?

As governments and private corporations put more energy and attention into climate protection, the U.S. national security establishment must also face what may be the threat of the century.

EDITORIAL POLICY Letters to the editor must include the NAME, VILLAGE ADDRESS, and CONTACT NUMBER of the contributor. Letters that do not have these information will immediately be trashed. Contributions consisting of 500 words or less have more chances of getting published. The *Saipan Tribune* reserves the right to publish a contribution or not; the right to edit submissions for length, accuracy, and clarity; and the right to publish and distribute contributions in print, electronic, or other media formats. Submissions may be sent via snail mail to the 2nd Floor, JP Center, Beach Road, Garapan, Saipan, 96950; fax (670) 235-3740; e-mail to editor@saipantribune.com; or through our website at www.saipantribune.com.

The Marianas proudly welcomes 20 countries for the Pacific Mini Games

TOGETHER, WE CAN
By VICENTE 'BEN' BABAUTA
Special to the Saipan Tribune

Vicente "Ben" Babauta served as the assistant general manager of operations for the Duty-Free Shopping Saipan and brings 33 years of experience in business operations to his role as the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games CEO of the Games Committee.

When I was appointed to serve as the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 chief executive officer in April 2021, I knew there would be a lot of work to prepare for the first-ever PMG 2022 event hosted by the Northern Marianas. Nevertheless, I was up for the challenge to stage an amazing, exciting, and unforgettable experience on Rota, Tinian, and Saipan for all athletes, coaches, officials, and spectators.

As of today, June 10, we are seven days away from the PMG 2022's opening ceremony. I have never felt so nervous and excited at the same time. The CNMI will welcome 177 teams from the 20 participating countries, who will compete in nine sporting events—Athletics (Track and Field Events), Badminton, Baseball, Beach Volleyball, Golf, Tennis, Triathlon, Va'a (Outrigger Canoe), and Weightlifting. We look forward to putting on a remarkable event for our community and striving to make this the best PMG 2022 event in the history of the games.

An investment in the Marianas

By the start of the games, the Oleai Sports Complex will be equipped with a new batting cage and pitching machine, track and field facilities, a baseball field, an air-conditioned gym, and more! We've made significant investments in each venue to support world-class competition. The best part is these facilities will be used by our local athletes well after the games. To ensure our spectators' comfort, we rented over 100 tents to ensure that each event has ample shading. We will also install additional over 1,000 seat bleachers with canopies at the OSC.

Though I won't be on Rota, I am personally excited about the triathlon. We've been meticulously working on our broadcast capabilities for the events. The committee invested in broadcasting equipment to bring the games into the homes and across the Pacific. The Northern Marianas College, the Public School System, and the Governor's Office have been instrumental in helping us develop our communications plan, and we are ready to cover the games for the world to see.

We will have a dedicated PMG 2022 channel, courtesy of the KSPN Flame Tree TV, which will be broadcasting all PMG 2022 competition highlights throughout the week. In addition to having a channel, the KKMP Radio Station developed a KPMG radio station where they will cover the PMG 2022 live from the Multi-Purpose Center in Susupe. The Multi-Purpose Center will serve as the central media center where our media partners will be able to receive the results in real-time throughout the games. On Saipan, the Polynesian/Melanesian French community will play a key role in translating commentary into various languages for the visiting athletes.

A culturally rich experience

Although this is a sporting event, the PMG 2022 will be a culturally-rich event. We invite our residents to warmly welcome and engage with our brothers and sisters from throughout the Pacific. Come out to watch the competitions and cheer on the CNMI's national team and the visiting teams. Let's show our warm Håfa Adai and Tirow hospitality and keep everyone safe by practicing the three Ws—wear a mask, wash your hands, and watch your distance. To promote a safe event, we will have sanitizers at all the competition venues.

This event is our community's labor of love. We've joined together to put on the most historic and marvelous event that the CNMI and the Pacific Islands will be able to enjoy. We are grateful to Gov. Ralph DLG Torres and our government agencies who have championed the event's success.

I want to personally thank the PMG 2022 Games and Oversight Committees, respective agencies, and the hundreds of people who are involved one way or another—the sponsors, volunteers, and all the hard playing athletes on the national teams—in making the PMG 2022 a big success! We could not have done it without all the unconditional support that we've received.

For more information about the opening ceremony, competition schedule, how you can enjoy the games on all three islands, or lend a hand as a volunteer, please visit the PMG 2022's website at northernmarianas2022.com. Together, We Can!

For more information or to view the full list of MVP winners and Adopt-A-Median partners, visit the GCEA website at cnmieconomy.com. Engage with the Council on Facebook and Instagram (@cnmigov.economy) or contact them at gceacnmi@gmail.com.

Echoes of Watergate in Trump probe

By CARL P. LEUBSDORF
The Dallas Morning News

Carl P. Leubsdorf is the former Washington bureau chief of the Dallas Morning News*. Readers may write to him via email at: carl.p.leubsdorf@gmail.com.*

This week's January 6 committee hearings concern the most serious allegations of presidential wrongdoing since Watergate. They come almost exactly 50 years after the break-in that spawned the scandal leading to President Richard Nixon's resignation. And they carry some striking similarities.

Hopefully, clarity will emerge from the first public testimony to the House committee that has been examining the insurrection that halted for some hours the congressional certification of the 2020 election results.

The details of the two scandals are very different. In essence, however, both reflected serious abuses of power by presidents with an inflated view of their authority.

In Watergate, President Nixon sought to use key government agencies, notably the CIA and FBI, to cover up the involvement of key White House aides and campaign committee staffers in the June 17, 1972, break-in of Democratic party headquarters at the Watergate Office Building.

Also, it developed, he was protecting an array of other illegal actions including "dirty tricks" against his Democratic rivals, and burglarizing the office of the psychiatrist treating Daniel Ellsberg, who leaked a secret Pentagon study of the Vietnam war.

Uncovering the scandal's full scope took months of hearings by a special Senate committee, the pressure of a federal judge, a 15-month probe by two special prosecutors and the House Judiciary Committee's impeachment inquiry. The crucial evidence stemmed from the July 1973 disclosure that Nixon had taped his White House conversations. After investigators won a series of court battles for the tapes, they proved his guilt and forced his resignation.

At one point, seeking to mitigate the damage, the White House released edited transcripts of the conversations. Though specific expletives were deleted, the rawness of Nixon's language and his willingness to flout the law gave Americans an insight that undercut his public support.

The Jan. 6, 2021, demonstrations preceding the invasion of the Capitol climaxed President Donald Trump's weeks-long propagation of unproven fraud claims and a series of failed efforts to pressure key state officials to reverse the results.

Members of the House panel hope to determine to what extent Trump was directly responsible for the most serious assault on the nation's democratic institutions since the Civil War, and to decide if there are grounds for the Justice Department to prosecute him.

As a journalist who wrote about the political aspects of both scandals – I headed the Senate staff of The Associated Press during Watergate – I see one essential similarity and two basic differences.

The similarity is that both involved presidents willing to go beyond the law to keep themselves in office.

As Garrett Graff points out in his massive new history "Watergate," the scandal stemmed from the paranoia Nixon brought to the White House. It prompted aides to undertake all sorts of illegal acts to damage political "enemies" and maintain secrecy, lest they be called to account.

Despite some dogged reporting, primarily by The Washington Post, they largely succeeded until after Nixon's 1972 re-election. But, in the end, the truth came out.

Trump tried to persuade officials in key states to reverse Joe Biden's popular vote victories. Failing that, he sought to pressure Vice President Mike Pence and Congress to reject Biden's electoral vote triumph.

Both Nixon and Trump suggested there were no constitutional constraints on their presidential powers. "When the president does it, that means that it is not illegal," Nixon said in a post-presidential interview with David Frost. "I have the right to do whatever I want as president," Trump said in a 2019 speech.

The major difference is that, in the end, Nixon was an institutionalist who accepted the verdict of the courts and Congress. When he lost a close 1960 presidential election, he rebuffed aides urging him to challenge the results. When congressional leaders told him in 1974 that he no longer had enough votes to survive, he resigned.

Trump refused to concede his 2020 defeat, contending without any factual basis that millions of fraudulent votes were cast in both his 2016 victory and 2020. Seventeen months after Congress affirmed Biden's triumph, he still says it was rigged, spreading widespread doubt about an election in which 158 million Americans voted without significant irregularities.

By accepting the verdict against him, Nixon enhanced public support for our governmental system. By making repeated unproven claims, Trump is weakening it.

Perhaps the biggest difference is that today's more partisan landscape protects a charged president.

In 1974, a crucial factor was that some Republicans and conservative Southern Democrats, allied ideologically with Nixon, acknowledged his guilt and withdrew their support. When the House Judiciary Committee voted on articles of impeachment, seven Republicans and three Southern Democrats joined the majority.

Facing the same prospect in the Senate, he resigned.

In today's more partisan politics, Republicans face party-wide pressure to back Trump publicly, regardless of any private doubts. After the House impeached him for his Jan. 6 role, all but seven GOP senators voted to acquit him.

Afterward, Republican Leader Mitch McConnell said, in essence, that Trump was guilty but that a former president couldn't be impeached.

Still, determining the facts remains important.

While reasons for the Watergate break-in remain hazy, subsequent probes answered Republican Sen. Howard Baker's oft-repeated question: "What did the president know and when did he know it?"

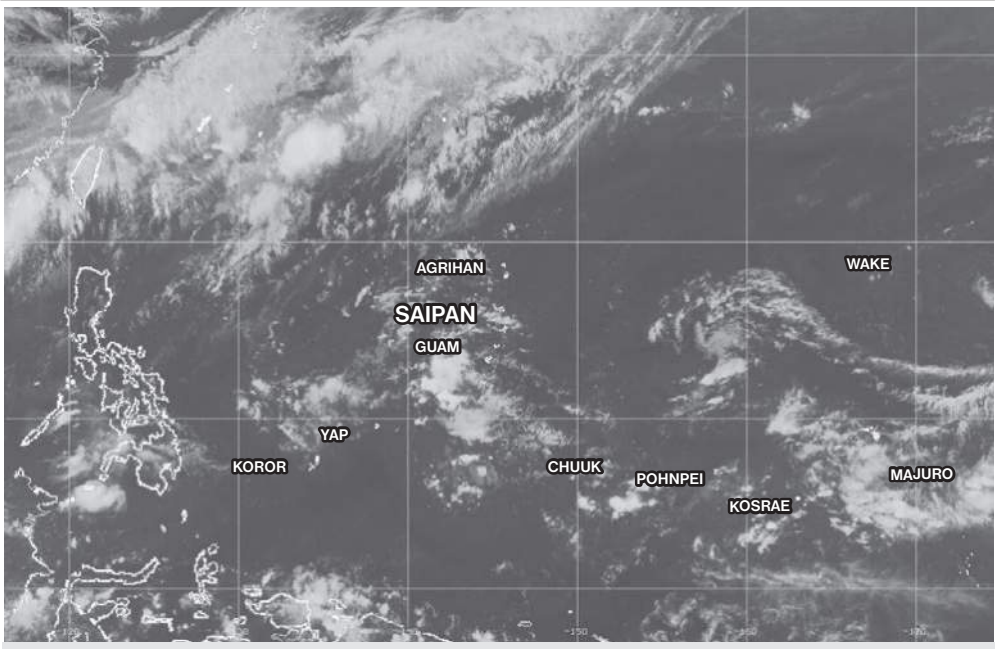
Hopefully, the current inquiry will answer the crucial Jan. 6 question: "What did the president do and when did he do it?"

The Weather

5-DAY FORECAST FOR SAIPAN AND TINIAN

TODAY	SATURDAY	SUNDAY	MONDAY	TUESDAY
Mostly cloudy, East wind 10 to 15 mph, with gusts as high as 18 mph	Partly sunny, East wind 11 to 14 mph.	Partly sunny, East wind 11 to 14 mph	Partly sunny, with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.	Mostly cloudy, with a chance of showers and thunderstorms.
90° 78°	90° 78°	90° 78°	88° 78°	90° 78°

YESTERDAY'S SATELLITE IMAGE



PICTURE TIME: 7:31 AM, THURSDAY, JUNE 9, 2022

Western North Pacific between equator and 25N from 130E to 180.

Satellite shows mostly cloudy skies this morning across the Marianas, with scattered small showers, and one or two brief thunderstorms during the night. Trade winds are moderate, with seas building to 5 feet at Ipan and 4 feet at Ritidian.

Satellite image and accompanying information are provided by the National Weather Service. For an updated weather forecast, visit the National Weather Service Guam homepage: www.prh.noaa.gov/guam/

MICRONESIA		▲ ▼ °F
Guam and Rota	Scattered Thunderstorms	32 / 27 °F
Palau	PM Thunderstorms	29 / 23 °F
Yap	Thunderstorms	30 / 26 °F
Chuuk	Partly Cloudy	30 / 26°F
Pohnpei	Thunderstorms	29 / 25 °F
Kosrae	Thunderstorms	28 / 25 °F
Majuro	Thunderstorms	28 / 26 °F

DAY	SUNRISE	SUNSET
Today	05:46 AM	18:46 PM
Friday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM
Saturday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM
Sunday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM
Monday	05:46 AM	18:47 PM

DAY	MOONRISE	MOONSET	MOONRISE
Today	-	02:36 PM	15:25 PM
Friday	-	03:20 PM	16:26 PM
Saturday	-	04:09 PM	17:30PM
Sunday	-	18:39 PM	16:26 PM
Monday	-	06:06 PM	19:47 PM

AROUND THE GLOBE		▲ ▼ °F
Auckland	Thunderstorms/Wind	17 / 13 °F
Beijing	PM Thunderstorms	30 / 17 °F
Hong Kong	Thunderstorms	29 / 26 °F
Honolulu	Mostly Sunny	29 / 23 °F
London	Partly Cloudy	20 / 15 °F
Los Angeles	Sunny	28 / 18 °F
Manila	Thunderstorms	33 / 27 °F
Melbourne	Showers	13 / 8 °F
Miami	Thunderstorms	29 / 25 °F
New York	Mostly Sunny	27 / 18 °F
Osaka	PM Showers	27 / 20 °F
Paris	Partly Cloudy	25 / 16 °F
Busan	Mostly Cloudy	24 / 19 °F
Rome	Mostly Cloudy	30 / 19 °F
Salem	Partly Cloudy	31 / 19 °F
San Francisco	Sunny	26 / 13 °F
Seoul	Partly Cloudy	29 / 17 °F
Tokyo	PM Showers	25 / 19 °F
Washington, DC	Partly Cloudy	28 / 18 °F

TIDES: SAIPAN HARBOR TODAY		FEET
03:39 AM	High Tide	2.08
10:31 AM	Low Tide	0.65
4:31 PM	High Tide	1.66
10:01 PM	Low Tide	0.94

STOP THE SPREAD

The Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and Commonwealth Healthcare Corp. continue to encourage residents within the Marianas to practice social distancing, which means avoiding close contact with people in order to avoid catching the virus yourself and to avoid passing it on to others.

■ Stay home as much as possible. Avoid unnecessary travel or public places.

■ Avoid social gatherings in groups of more than 10.

■ Choose drive-thru, take-out, or delivery options, or outdoor seating, if available, when dining in.

■ Send only one healthy adult from the household run necessary errands, such as getting groceries or picking up medications. Leave children, elderly, and other vulnerable people at home as much as possible. When returning home from an errand, wash your hands before doing anything else.

■ Older adults and people with chronic medical conditions are at higher risk of getting very sick from this illness. People at high risk should stay at home as much as possible.

■ Create a household plan of action, https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prepare/checklisthousehold-ready.html

■ Ensure a 30-day supply of all medicines.

Continue good hand hygiene

■ Wash your hands for at least 20 seconds with soap and water, avoid touching your face, cover coughs and sneezes with a tissue or your sleeve.

■ Use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer if soap and water are not readily available.

Know the signs and symptoms of COVID-19 and what to do if you become symptomatic

■ Stay home when you are sick and if you recently traveled to a place with COVID-19. Self-quarantine means:

• Choosing a room in your house that can be used to separate sick household members from others.

• Washing your hands often with soap and water for at least 20 seconds. If soap and water are not available, use an alcohol-based hand sanitizer.

• Avoiding touching your eyes, nose, and mouth with unwashed hands.

• Limiting visitors

CHCC appreciates the patience and understanding of the community at this time. To obtain general information about the CNMI COVID-19 response, contact the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force Hotline at 287-0046, 287-0489, 287-1089. These numbers are available Monday to Sunday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For medical information about COVID-19, reach out to the COVID-19 Infoline at the following numbers: 285-1672/1352. These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30pm.

For mental health support and helpful tips during a crisis, call the Mental Health Support Line at 285-1856, 323-6560, 323-6561 These numbers are available Monday to Friday, 7:30am - 4:30 pm. For the 24/7 Disaster Distress Helpline, call SAMSHA at 1-800-985-5990.

For more information about DIY face coverings, visit https://www.cdc.gov/coronavirus/2019-ncov/prevent-getting-sick/cloth-face-cover.html

For more information about CHCC programs, follow CHCC on Facebook, Instagram, Twitter at @cnmichcc, check out our website at www.chcc.gov.mp or call us at (670) 234-8950.

For more information on the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force, visit www.governor.gov.mpand, follow @GovernorCNMI on Facebook, Instagram, and Twitter.

This health advisory may be found online at http://www.chcc.gov.mp/pressrelease.html and at www.governor.gov.mp/covid-19.

Rumor control

During crises like this, oftentimes the spread of misinformation is just as dangerous as the virus itself. The CNMI is reminded to only share official and verified notices, press releases, and advisories from the Governor's COVID-19 Task Force and CHCC.

Source: Office of the Governor

NEWS DESK For news tips, corrections and requests for news coverage, call (670) 235-NEWS (6397), 235-2440, fax 235,3740. E-mail: editor@saipantribune.com. Website:www.saipantribune.com.

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FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

DEPARTURES

SAIPAN-GUAM (GUM)

UA117	9:50AM	10:30AM	Daily
UA156	6:30PM	7:15PM	6

GUAM-MANILA (MNL)

PR 111	6:00AM	8:00AM	Daily
UA193	7:05PM	10:55PM	5 via Palau
UA183	7:10PM	9:10PM	Daily

SAIPAN-MANILA (MNL)

UA117/183	9:50AM	9:10PM	Daily via Guam
UA117/193	9:50AM	10:55PM	5 via Guam, Palau

SAIPAN-INCHEON (ICN)

TW9308	3:30PM	7:20PM	3, 4, 6, 7
7C3405	3:30PM	7:25PM	6
RS112	3:45PM	7:30PM	3, 6
7C3405	3:50PM	7:45PM	3
OZ624	4:00PM	7:40PM	3, 6

SAIPAN-BUSAN (PUS)

7C3451	2:00PM	5:20PM	7
7C3451	3:00PM	6:20PM	3
BX621	3:10PM	6:30PM	3, 7

ARRIVALS

GUAM (GUM)-SAIPAN

UA174	8:00AM	8:45AM	Daily
UA112	4:40PM	5:30PM	6

MANILA (MNL)-GUAM

PR110	10:00PM	4:00AM+1	Daily
UA184	10:25PM	4:25AM+1	1, 2, 3, 4, 6, 7
UA192	10:25PM	6:15AM+1	5 via Palau
UA184	11:50PM	5:40AM+1	5

MANILA (MNL)-SAIPAN

A184/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	1,2,3, 4, 6,7 via Guam
UA192/174	10:25PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Palau, Guam
UA184/174	11:50PM	8:45AM+1	5 via Guam

INCHEON (ICN)-SAIPAN

7C3406	8:30AM	2:10PM	6
RS111	8:45AM	2:05PM	3, 6
7C3406	8:50AM	2:30PM	3
TW9307	9:00AM	2:30PM	4, 6, 7
OZ623	9:00AM	2:30PM	3, 6
TW9307	9:15AM	2:30PM	3

BUSAN (PUS)-SAIPAN

7C3452	8:00AM	1:00PM	7
BX621	8:00AM	1:10PM	3, 7
7C3452	9:00AM	2:00PM	3

LEGEND: Days: Monday (1), Tuesday (2), Wednesday (3), Thursday (4), Friday (5), Saturday (6) and Sunday (7); UA United Airlines; PR, Philippine Airlines; TW, T'Way Air; OZ, Asiana Airlines; 7C, Jeju Air; BX, Air Busan • ETD: Estimated Time of Departure; ETA: Estimated Time of Arrival. *(The Saipan Tribune is not responsible for any changes in the schedule.)*

STAR MARIANAS AIR, INC.

FLIGHT SCHEDULE AS OF JUNE 1, 2022

SAIPAN TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1301	SAIPAN	ROTA	8:30	9:00	Daily
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	11:00	11:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
1302	SAIPAN	ROTA	12:00	12:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
1303	SAIPAN	ROTA	15:30	16:00	Daily

ROTA TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3101	ROTA	SAIPAN	9:30	10:00	Daily
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	13:00	13:30	Tues/Thurs/Sat/Sun
3102	ROTA	SAIPAN	14:00	14:30	Mon/Wed/Fri
3103	ROTA	SAIPAN	16:30	17:00	Daily

ROTA TO GUAM

LIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
3401	ROTA	GUAM	12:00	12:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

GUAM TO ROTA

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
4301	GUAM	ROTA	13:00	13:30	Mon/Wed/Fri

SAIPAN TO TINIAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
1202	SAIPAN	TINIAN	8:00	8:15	Daily
1203	SAIPAN	TINIAN	9:00	9:15	Daily
1204	SAIPAN	TINIAN	10:00	10:15	Daily
1208	SAIPAN	TINIAN	14:00	14:15	Daily
1209	SAIPAN	TINIAN	15:00	15:15	Daily
1210	SAIPAN	TINIAN	16:00	16:15	Daily
1211	SAIPAN	TINIAN	17:00	17:15	Daily

TINIAN TO SAIPAN

FLIGHT #	FROM	TO	DEPARTS	ARRIVES	FREQUENCY
2102	TINIAN	SAIPAN	8:30	8:45	Daily
2103	TINIAN	SAIPAN	9:30	9:45	Daily
2104	TINIAN	SAIPAN	10:30	10:45	Daily
2108	TINIAN	SAIPAN	14:30	14:45	Daily
2109	TINIAN	SAIPAN	15:30	15:45	Daily
2110	TINIAN	SAIPAN	16:30	16:45	Daily
2111	TINIAN	SAIPAN	17:30	17:45	Daily

ARAW NG KALAYAAN
JUNE 12

124 YEARS OF
PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE

"Rise Towards the Challenge of a New Beginning."

50 One Boat. One Team. One Vision
Tan Holdings Anniversary

Tan Holdings · HEALTH IS WEALTH · Tan Siu Lin Foundation

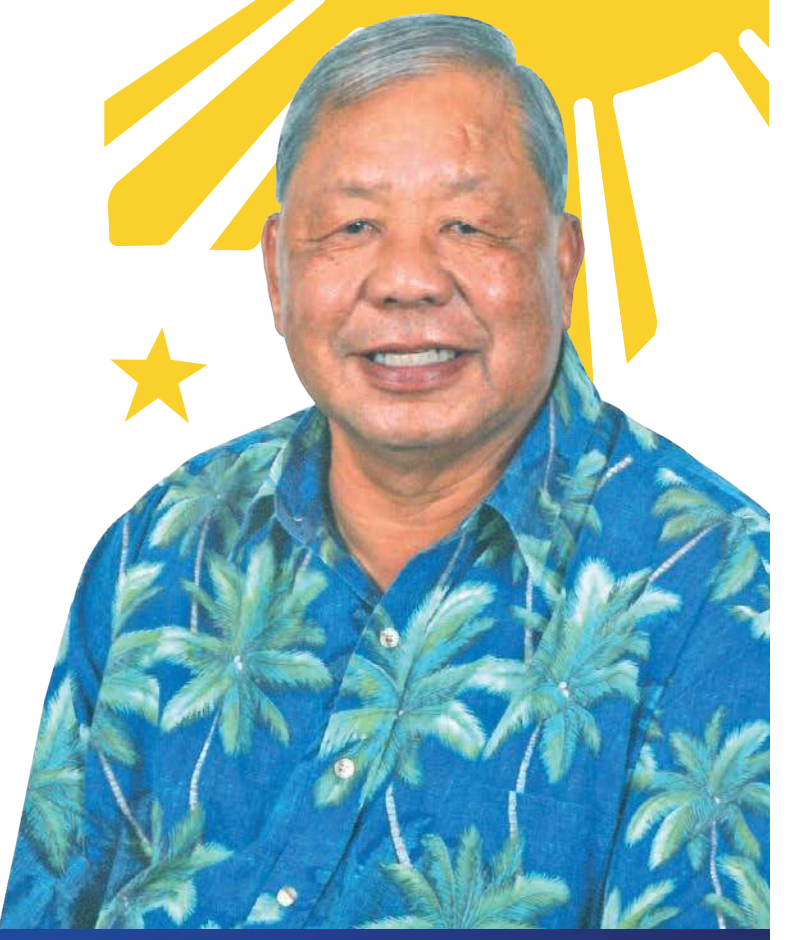
MESSAGE FROM MAYOR DAVID MUNDO APATANG ON THE 124th ANNIVERSARY OF THE INDEPENDENCE OF THE PHILIPPINES

On June 12, 1898, the Philippines gained its independence. We join our friends, families, and the government of the Philippines in celebrating 124 years of independence on June 12, 2022. The occasion on June 12, 2022 will mark more than a lifetime of moving forward to better the lives, economy, and protection of the people of the Philippines. One hundred twenty-four years of independence is a symbol of unity, and a testament of strong will to join others in making our world a peaceful, safer, and meaningful place for all mankind. Congratulations to all our kababayans on the 124th anniversary of the Independence of the Philippines.

Happy 124th
PHILIPPINE INDEPENDENCE DAY

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR · COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS · MUNICIPALITY OF SAIPAN/SEIPEL · UNITED STATES NOV. 4, 1986

DAVID M. APATANG
MAYOR OF SAIPAN AND STAFF



8 Beach Road pavilions get solar panels

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Solar panels are installed on pavilions alongside Beach Road last June 3, 2022.

The CNMI Office of Grants Management installed solar panels on pavilions alongside Beach Road last June 3, 2022.

These solar panels will provide cost-free lighting and electricity to eight pavilions along Beach Road, and plans are underway to install more solar panels on pavilions around Saipan, Tinian, and Rota. ***(Office of the Governor)***

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

HONORING A PIONEER

18th CNMI Youth Congress floor leader Sen. Yurihana DLG. Sasamoto (MCS), along with House Speaker Edmund S. Villagomez and members of the 22nd House of Representatives have their picture taken after presenting Youth Congress Resolution 18-07 to Maria Borja Salas and her family on April 27, 2022. The resolution, introduced by Youth Sen. Easton C. Dela Cruz (MHS), honors the work of the late Joaquina Margaret Borja Salas, a legislative staffer who passed away last February. During her tenure as a staffer, Salas worked as executive secretary to the late Rep. Francisco S. Dela Cruz, former Rep. Marco T. Peter and, more recently, Villagomez. A graduate of Marianas High School, Salas was a member of the 1st CNMI Youth Congress, holding office for three terms, and was vice speaker during the 2nd Youth Congress.

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

C-O-N-G-R-A-T-U-L-A-T-I-O-N-S

18th CNMI Youth Congress Speaker Cielo Citlalli G. Long (TJSHS) and floor leader Sen. Yurihana DLG Sasamoto (MCS) pose for a photograph with Ana Guadalupe Mafnas Villagomez, her parents (Richard S. and Jennifer M. Villagomez), and family members after presenting her with Youth Congress Resolution 18-05 during their last regular session. The resolution, introduced by Sasamoto, honors Villagomez, a 7th-grade student of Grace Christian Academy (Saipan) for winning the 2022 Scripps Regional Spelling Bee last March in Guam. Villagomez recently represented the Micronesian region in last week's Scripps National Spelling Bee in Washington, D.C. The 13-year-old is the granddaughter of the late House vice speaker Jesus P. Mafnas, author of the law that created the Youth Congress.

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY(CPA)
CNMI GOVERNMENT

Main Office: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT
P.O. BOX 501055 • SAIPAN • MP 96950 • Phone: (670) 237-6500 • Fax: (670) 234-5962
www.cnmiports.com

NOTICE TO BIDDERS

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY (CPA) is inviting qualified contractors to submit bid proposals and their qualifications for the BENJAMIN TAISACAN MANGLONA INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT DRAINAGE IMPROVEMENT PROJECT, CPA-RA-003-17, on the island of Rota, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands.

Bidders are to submit one original and two copies of their bid which shall be sealed in an envelope and marked on the cover package outside as follows: ***"Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport Drainage Improvement Project, CPA-RA-003-17"*** and submitted no later than **2:00 P.M. (CHST), FRIDAY, JUNE 24, 2022**, to the Office of the Executive Director, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, at which time and place the sealed proposals will be publicly opened and read. Bidders are requested to minimize their company's attendees to ensure social distancing, as well as wear a face mask at all times while at the airport.

The Project, in general, consists of sewer pipe replacement at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport Terminal including all associated work, all in accordance with the Plans and Specifications.

The Project is being financed by funds by the Commonwealth Ports Authority. The contract award, if it is to be made, will be made within one hundred twenty (120) calendar days from the receipt of bids. CPA reserves the right to hold such bids in effect for one hundred eighty (180) calendar days from the date of bid opening.

A DVD containing the Contract Documents including plans, specifications and the bid schedule, may be obtained at the CPA Accounting Office, 2nd floor of the Departure Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport, upon the payment of **SEVENTY-FIVE U.S. DOLLARS ($75.00)** for each set of plans and documents in electronic form (DVD). The payment is nonrefundable. Payment shall be made in cash, credit card, cashier's check or U.S. postal money order payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority. Bidders should notify CPA immediately if there are issues retrieving the files on the DVD and are to verify all information using the specification table of contents and the index of drawings in the plans.

A pre-bid conference will be held at the CPA Maintenance/Custodian Supervisor's office at the Benjamin Taisacan Manglona International Airport, at **10:00 A.M. (CHST), FRIDAY, JUNE 10, 2022**, to explain and clarify any questions regarding this project. Attendance is not mandatory. A site visit will follow the pre-bid conference. For site visits after the pre-bid conference, bidders are to coordinate with Ms. Sharlene Manglona, CPA's Rota Ports Manager at email address sharlene.manglona@cnmiports.com or telephone number (670) 532-9497, during regular working hours.

Questions should be submitted in writing to the CPA Executive Director's Office, 2nd floor of the Arrival Terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport or emailed to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, Executive Assistant/Project Manager at wprater@cnmiports.com at least ten (10) days prior to the bid opening date.

Bidders shall use the bid schedule form furnished by the Commonwealth Ports Authority on the DVD. Each bidder must also supply all supplemental information required in the specifications.

The contract period for construction of the project in its entirety shall be **Two Hundred Seventy (270) calendar days**. Liquidated damages in the amount of **Five-Hundred U.S. Dollars ($500.00)** shall be assessed the Contractor for each calendar day that the completion of the Project is beyond the contract completion date without approved excuse.

The apparent low bidder will be subject to a thorough and comprehensive review of its qualifications and Bid Documents to ensure that they are "responsive and responsible." This review will include, but is not necessarily limited to previous project experience, financial capabilities, quality of equipment and personnel, and bonding and insurance. If the apparent low bidder is found not to be "responsive or responsible", their bid will be rejected and the next lowest bidder will be evaluated for qualifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority reserves the right to reject any or all bid proposals submitted for: (a) any of the reasons set forth in this Notice to Bidders; or (b) any of the reasons set forth in the CPA Procurement Rules and Regulations regarding bid rejection or cancellation; (c) any calculation error made in the bid schedule or mis-enter of the quantity of line item; or (d) sufficient justification exists that awarding the project contract would not be in the best interest of CPA. CPA further reserves the right to waive any defects in said bids if in its sole opinion to do so would be in CPA's best interest.

Each bid shall be accompanied by either a bid bond by a U.S. Treasury listed or CPA approved surety company, a certified check, or a cashier's check in the amount not less than ten percent (10%) of the bid price. Checks shall be made payable to the Commonwealth Ports Authority.

All mechanics and laborers for this procurement project shall be paid no less than the minimum wage rate established by the CNMI or the U.S. Secretary of Labor, whichever is higher. A copy of the Department of the Federal Labor Wage Rate Determination is included in Section GP 70-28 of the specifications. The bidder shall take into account minimum wage increases that may be imposed in the CNMI over the life of the Contract and include associated costs in the bid proposal. The EEO requirements, labor provisions, and wage rates are included in the specifications.

The Commonwealth Ports Authority, in accordance with the provisions of Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964 (78 Stat. 252, 42 USC §§ 2000d to 2000d-4) and the Regulations, hereby notifies all bidders or offerors that it will affirmatively ensure that any contract entered into pursuant to this advertisement, disadvantaged business enterprises will be afforded full and fair opportunity to submit bids in response to this invitation and will not be discriminated against on the grounds of race, color, or national origin in consideration for an award.

The United States Secretary of Transportation has granted the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands an exemption from the requirements of the Department of Transportation's Minority Business Enterprise (MBE) regulation, which later became the Department of Transportation's Disadvantaged Business Enterprise program, as it relates to FAA grant programs. The Secretary of Transportation has not determined that a portion of those requirements should be reinstated.

By submitting a bid/proposal under this solicitation, the bidder or offeror certifies that neither it nor its principals are presently debarred or suspended by any Federal department or agency from participation in this transaction.

FOR THE COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY:

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: May 11, 2022

COMMONWEALTH PORTS AUTHORITY

MAIN OFFICE: SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT, 2ND FLOOR ARRIVAL BLDG.
PO BOX 501055•SAIPAN•MP•96950
PHONE: (1-670) 237-6500/1 | FAX: (1-670) 234-5962
WEBSITE: WWW.CNMIPORTS.COM

REQUEST FOR QUALIFICATION STATEMENTS FOR CONSTRUCTION MANAGEMENT SERVICES

FRANCISCO C. ADA/SAIPAN INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT ARFF ROLL UP DOOR REPLACEMENT PROJECT NO. CPA-SA-001-20

The Commonwealth Ports Authority's (CPA) is a public corporation and autonomous agency of the Government of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (CNMI). In accordance with its Procurement Rules and Regulations, CPA hereby seeks the services of qualified consulting firms to provide Construction Management Services for the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport ARFF Roll Up Doors Replacement Project, No. CPA-SA-001-20.

The project is being funded by the Commonwealth Ports Authority and is in accordance and compliance with CPA's Procurement Rules and Regulations, Section 40-50-202, Architect-Engineer Design and Construction Management Services.

The Request for Qualification (RFQ) Package is available at CPA's Administration Office, 2nd floor of the arrival terminal at the Francisco C. Ada/Saipan International Airport. No fee is required for obtaining the RFQ package. Electronic copies may be made available upon written request to Ms. Wendi Prater at wprater@cnmiports.com or Ms. Sheri Llagas at cpa.receptionist@pticom.com.

Questions regarding this request for qualification statements must be submitted to Ms. Wendi L. Prater, CPA Executive Assistant/Project Manager, via email to wprater@cnmiports.com or hand delivered to the CPA Administration Office by no later than 5:00 p.m. CHST, local time, Friday, June 3, 2022.

The statements of professional qualification will be evaluated based on the criteria available in the RFQ package.

Interested Consultants are requested to submit one (1) original, four (4) copies and one (1) electronic version in .pdf of their statements of professional qualifications no later than **5:00 p.m. CHST, WEDNESDAY, JUNE 15, 2022.** Statements of qualification must be presented by a combination of both brochures and the use of current U.S. Government Standard Form 330.

The CPA reserves the right to reject any or all statements of professional qualification for any reason, if in its sole opinion to do so would be in its best interest.

/s/ CHRISTOPHER S. TENORIO
Executive Director

Date: May 9, 2022

OLIVER M. MANGLONA, ESQ. (F0489)
ATTORNEY AT LAW
Plata Drive, Whispering Palms (Chalan Kiya)
P.O. Box 7862 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950
Telephone: (670) 285-3750 | Facsimile: (670) 234-5749

Attorney for Petitioner Angelina L. Villagomez

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

IN THE MATTER OF THE ESTATE OF : JOSEFINA ASUNCION RAMOS, : Deceased.	CIVIL ACTION NO. 22-0121 : NOTICE OF HEARING ON PETITION FOR PROBATE OF WILL AND FOR LETTERS TESTAMENTARY; and : NOTICE TO CREDITORS : Date: JUNE 23, 2022 : Time: 10:00 A.M. : Judge: JOSEPH CAMACHO

TO: THE GENERAL PUBLIC, ANY HEIRS, OR CREDITORS OF THE LATE JOSEFINA ASUNCION RAMOS OR HER ESTATE:

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that **Angelina L. Villagomez** has petitioned the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands to Probate the Will and for Letters Testamentary for the Estate of Josefina Asuncion Ramos, the deceased. The attorney for Petitioner is **Oliver M. Manglona**, Attorney at Law, whose address is Plata Drive, Chalan Kiya, P.O. Box 7862 SVRB, Saipan, MP 96950.

The hearing on the Petition is scheduled to be heard on the date and at the time set forth above at the Superior Court of the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. All interested persons or entities should appear at this hearing.

Any and all persons, creditors, or entities having claims against the deceased or her Estate are hereby required by law to file their claims with the Clerk of Court within sixty (60) days of this publication or the claim(s) will be barred. A copy of your claim should also be sent to **OLIVER M. MANGLONA, Attorney at Law, at the address herein-above indicated**.

Dated this 26th day of May 2022.

/s/_____
Clerk of Court/Deputy Clerk of Court

Learn how to sustain your non-profit organization

The Marianas Alliance of Non-Governmental Organizations is offering a free community workshop on June 15, 2022, from 9am to 12pm at the MANGO Resource Center that will teach participants how to make one's organization sustainable.

If you're interested in attending, you may register online at: https://forms.gle/k5nv6mHP4AB12aLy5

Doors open at 8:30am to allow networking among participants. Refreshments will be provided.

Many nonprofit organizations struggle to secure the resources to provide services to the community. The training includes information on how to plan sustainable projects to address community goals. Important to the organization's sustainability is the development and implementation of a sustainability strategic plan and the components of the plan will be introduced. The training will also provide tools that can be used to identify resources already in your community. Nonprofits are also using the development of a for-profit business to sustain their organizations and the tools for assessing your organization's capacity to establish a for-profit business and how to develop a business plan will be presented.

Participants gain a chance to win MANGO merchandise and professional services that value up to $600 for every community workshop you attend. All attendees will have their names entered into a raffle pot. (The more workshops you join, the more times your name will be entered!) Drawing will be on the last community workshop module in September.

4-H Marianas board of director president Victoria Deleon Guerrero said: "Being a part of MANGO's Lemmai-Mei Project has been helpful and informative as 4-H Marianas continues to expand and serve the personal and professional needs of its youth leaders. The lessons provided are comprehensive, engaging, and greatly informative for newly established non-profit organizations. MANGO's staff are also greatly helpful and have continued to support and guide our organization as we aim to earn the 501(c)(3) status. Non-profits, especially newly established non-profits, would greatly benefit from the presentations and workshop activities available through this program."

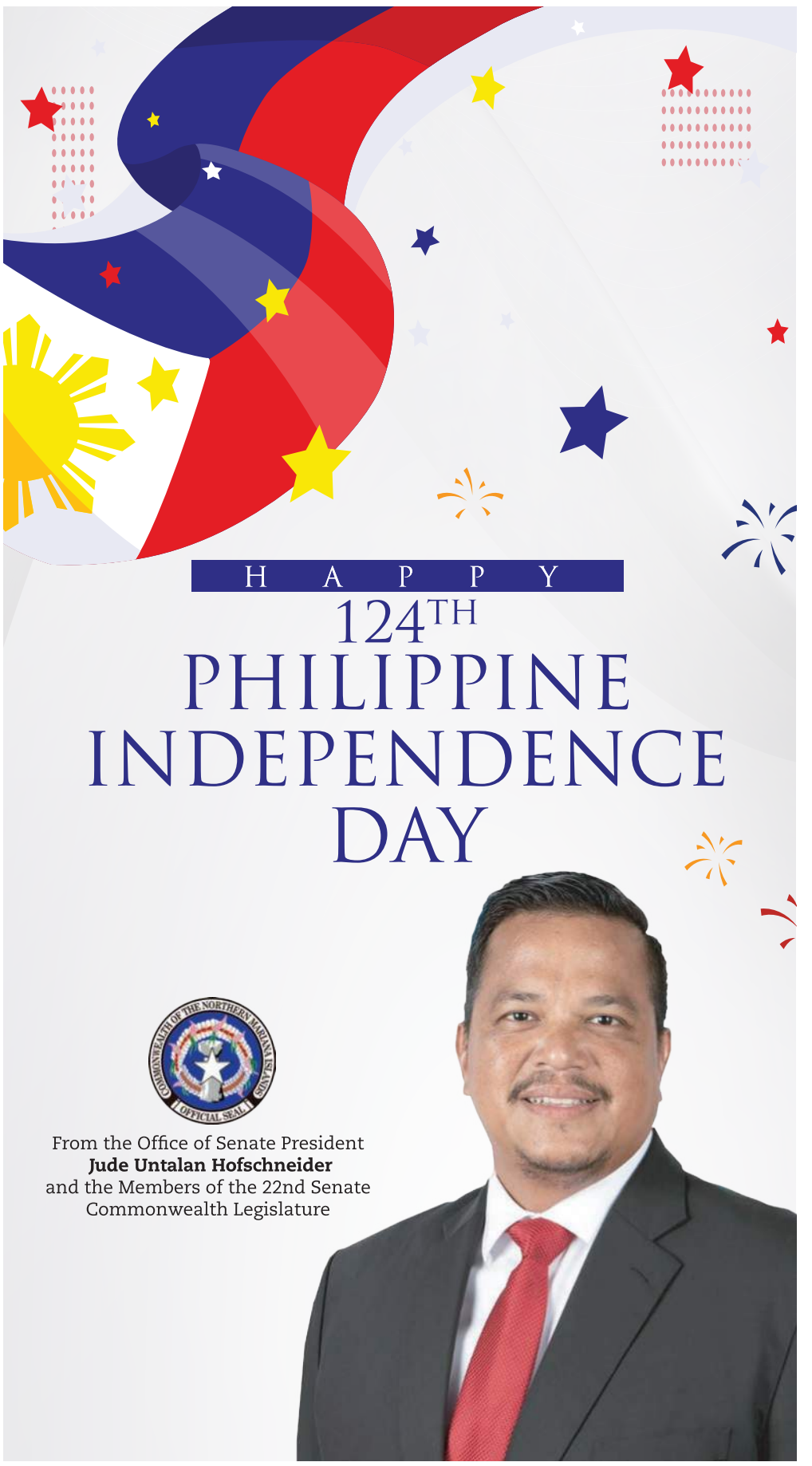
For more information, contact Shawna Babauta via email at: info@mangocnmi.org or via phone: (670)233-6200. ***(MANGO)***

VALIANT SHIELF 2022
Members of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Unit 5, Platoon 501, conduct an unexploded ordnance evolution, including a safe transport and simulated controlled detonation of the UXO in support of Valiant Shield 2022. Exercises such as Valiant Shield allows the Indo-Pacific Command Joint Forces the opportunity to integrate forces from all branches of service to conduct precise, lethal, and overwhelming multi-axis, multi-domain effects that demonstrate the strength and versatility of the Joint Force and our commitment to a free and open Indo-Pacific. U.S. NAVY/LT. TYLER BALDINO

BOUNTIFUL
SUSHI AND SEAFOOD
BUFFET

UNLIMITED
SPARKLING WINE, BEER,
AND FRESH ORANGE JUICE

RESTAURANT OLE
6+1 BRUNCH
REWARD CARD



MICHAEL N. EVANGELISTA, Esq. (F0364)
LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL
NORITA EVANGELISTA, LLC.
D'Torres Building, Garapan
P.O. Box 504340
Saipan, MP 96950
Phone (670) 235-8060
Fax (670) 235-8070

Attorney for Plaintiff

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF SAIPAN, Plaintiff, vs. EPHREM S. TAIMANAO, LUCIA M, TAIMANO, RAYMOND C. FLAWAU (as to 1 lot only – Lot 345 R 168) and CNMI DEPARTMENT OF FINANCE – DIVISION OF REVENUE & TAXATION, Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 13-0162

NOTICE OF AUCTION ON THE MORTGAGED PROPERTY

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to the Judgment issued by the Court in this matter on December 7, 2016, the court-approved auctioneer, Micheline Brel, will sell at public auction, to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the right, title, and interest of Defendants in and to the following real properties:

Legal description of the properties:

1. Lot 345 R 423, Rota, containing an area of 1,003 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 09 the original of which was recorded September 27, 1984 under File No. 84-2049 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

2. Lot 345 R 411, Rota, containing an area of 931 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 09, the original of which was recorded September 27, 1984 under File No. 84-2049 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

3. Lot 345 R 188, Sinapalo, Rota, containing an area of 1,033 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 04, the original of which was recorded December 19, 1983 as File No. 83-0383 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

4. Lot 345 R 79, Sinapalo, Rota, containing an area of 1,037 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing/Cadastral Plat No. 345 R 03, the original of which was recorded December 19, 1983 under File No. 83-385 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

5. Lot 011 R 16, Rota, containing an area of 929 square meters, more or less, as more particularly described on Drawing / Cadastral Plat No. 011 R 00, the original of which was recorded March 06, 1974 under File No. 3439 at Commonwealth Recorder's, Saipan.

Date, Time, and Place of Sale:

The sale will be held on the 1st day of July, 2022, at 11:00 a.m., at the Law Offices of Michael N. Evangelista, LLC, 2nd Floor, D'Torres Building, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands. The sale will be open to the general public.

Terms and Condition of Sale:

The Terms and Conditions of Sale may be obtained from the Law Offices of Michael N. Evangelista, LLC, 2nd Floor, D' Torres Building, Garapan, Saipan, Northern Mariana Islands, either prior to or at the sale. These terms and conditions shall govern the conduct of the sale.

DATED this 3rd day of June, 2022.

LAW OFFICES OF MICHAEL NORITA EVANGELISTA, LLC.
/s/ Michael N. Evangelista, Esq. (Bar No. 0364)
Attorney for Plaintiff

VINCENT J. SEMAN, CNMI Bar No. F-0361
Seman Law Offices, LLC
JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204
3 P.O. Box 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950
4 Telephone: (670) 323-2115
E-mail: vjseman@semanlaw.com
Attorney for: Plaintiff BANK OF GUAM

IN THE SUPERIOR COURT FOR THE COMMONWEALTH OF THE NORTHERN MARIANA ISLANDS

BANK OF GUAM Plaintiff, vs. ARCH STRUCTURE CORPORATION dba ASC CONSTRUCTION, JIN XU and HAO) XU, Defendants.

CIVIL ACTION NO. 19-0229

NOTICE OF PUBLIC SALE

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN that, pursuant to an Order Re: Foreclosure Sale issued by the Court in this matter on April 26, 2022, Vincent J. Seman, the court-appointed Auctioneer, will sell at public auction to the highest bidder, on the terms and conditions set forth hereinbelow, all of the rights, title, and interest of Defendants, jointly and severally, in and to the following property:

Lease Agreement entered into on February 1, 2012 and recorded on February 1, 2012 as Document Number 12-0193 which is a long-term lease of improved property located in Capitol Hill, Saipan, Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands (the "Lease") the real property leased thereby further described as:

Lot 162 E 01, more particularly described on Drawing/ Cadastral Plat No. 162 E 00, the original of which was recorded at the real Commonwealth Recorder's Office, Saipan, on February 13, 1995, as File No. 95-343.

Date, Time and Place of Public Sale. The sale by public auction will be held on July 8, 2022, at the hour of 10:00 a.m. at Seman Law Offices, LLC, JET Realty Bldg., Suite 204, P.O. Box 3 10001 PMB 168, Saipan, MP 96950. The auction will be opened to the general public. The Auctioneer reserves the right to postpone or cancel the auction at any time.

Inspection of Lease Documents and Leased Property. The Lease, a Plat Map showing the boundaries of the real property that is the subject of the Lease, a map of that property's location in Saipan, this Notice of Public Sale and a copy of the Order re: Foreclosure Sale are available for inspection and copying at Seman Law Offices, LLC weekdays between the hours 9:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. Prospective bidders can contact the Auctioneer to schedule an appointment to view and 11 inspect the leased property prior to the auction.

Terms and Conditions of Public Sale. The auction will be subject to a reserve price which the Auctioneer will disclose to bidders at the start of the auction. The winning bidder must make a non-refundable down payment to the Auctioneer at the conclusion of the auction in an amount of no less than 10% of the winning bid in cash or by cashier's check issued by a commercial bank with a Saipan branch. Within 10 calendar days of the conclusion of the auction, the winning bidder must pay to the auctioneer the remaining balance of the winning bid in cash or by cashier's check issued by a commercial bank with a Saipan branch. Upon full and timely payment, the Auctioneer will issue the winning bidder a Certificate of Sale which will be subject to and take effect upon the Court's confirmation of the sale. The sale of the Lease Agreement will be subject to a statutory right of redemption for a period of one year after the Court's confirmation of the sale. In the event such right of redemption is not exercised, an Auctioneer's Deed shall be issued to the purchaser or its assignee upon expiration of the redemption period. Any modifications or amendments to the 26 auction date will be filed with the Clerk of Court in the form of an Amended Notice of Sale and the Auctioneer will give notice to the public as required by the Order re: Foreclosure Sale.

DATED: June 7, 2022.

SEMAN LAW OFFICES, LLC
By: /s/ Vincent J. Seman
Vincent J. Seman, F-0361
Attorney for Plaintiff

Nation

Jan. 6 panel's witnesses: From Trump aides to rioters

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House Jan. 6 committee has interviewed more than 1,000 people who were directly or indirectly involved in the U.S. Capitol insurrection as it probes the violent attack and former President Donald Trump's unprecedented efforts to overturn his election defeat.

Several will return for a series of public hearings starting Thursday as the committee begins to present its findings to the public. The panel is expected to bring in some of its most informative and revelatory witnesses as it recounts Trump's efforts to pressure state officials, members of Congress and his own vice president to reject President Joe Biden's victory.

On Thursday evening, they will interview British filmmaker Nick Quested, who recorded members of the far-right Proud Boys as they stormed the building, and Caroline Edwards, a U.S. Capitol Police officer who was seriously injured in last year's attack.

Some of the interviews conducted by the panel were with well-known figures, among them members of Trump's family and top White House aides. Others were with lower-level staffers or government officials who attended key meetings or had knowledge of specific developments. The committee has talked to police officers, campaign aides and some of the rioters themselves.

Most of the witnesses sat for voluntary interviews, but the panel has issued more than 100 subpoenas. The House voted to pursue contempt charges against four people who refused to comply, and the Justice Department is prosecuting two of them—former Trump aides Steve Bannon and Peter Navarro. The department declined to prosecute former White House chief of staff Mark Meadows and Trump aide Dan Scavino.

House passes gun control bill after Buffalo, Uvalde attacks

WASHINGTON (AP)—The House passed a wide-ranging gun control bill Wednesday in response to recent mass shootings in Buffalo, New York, and Uvalde, Texas, that would raise the age limit for purchasing a semi-automatic rifle and prohibit the sale of ammunition magazines with a capacity of more than 15 rounds.

The legislation passed by a mostly party-line vote of 223-204. It has almost no chance of becoming law as the Senate pursues negotiations focused on improving mental health programs, bolstering school security and enhancing background checks. But the House bill does allow Democratic lawmakers a chance to frame for voters in November where they stand on policies that polls show are widely supported.

"We can't save every life, but my God, shouldn't we try? America we hear you and today in the House we are taking the action you are demanding," said Rep. Veronica Escobar, D-Texas. "Take note of who is with you and who is not."

The push comes after a House committee heard wrenching testimony from recent shooting victims and family members, including from 11-year-old girl Miah Cerrillo, who covered herself with a dead classmate's blood to avoid being shot at the Uvalde elementary school.

The seemingly never-ending cycle of mass shootings in the United States has rarely stirred Congress to act. But the shooting of 19 children and two teachers in Uvalde has revived efforts in a way that has lawmakers from both parties talking about the need to respond.

"It's sickening, it's sickening that our children are forced to live in this constant fear," said House Speaker Nancy Pelosi, D-Calif.

Pelosi said the House vote would "make history by making progress." But it's unclear where the House measure will go after Wednesday's vote, given that Republicans were adamant in their opposition.

"The answer is not to destroy the Second Amendment, but that is exactly where the Democrats want to go," said Rep. Jim Jordan, R-Ohio.

The work to find common ground is mostly taking place in the Senate, where support from 10 Republicans will be needed to get a bill signed into law. Nearly a dozen Democratic and Republican senators met privately for an hour Wednesday in hopes of reaching a framework for compromise legislation by week's end. Participants said more conversations were needed about a plan that is expected to propose modest steps.

NOTICE OF PROPOSED ACTION
by the
U.S. Environmental Protection Agency (EPA)
Region 9, Water Division
75 Hawthorne St.
San Francisco, CA 94105

Public Notice #: MP-22-01
Public Notice Date: June 8, 2022
Comment Period Closes: July 8, 2022

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency, Region IX (USEPA) is issuing a notice of proposed action under the Clean Water Act (CWA) to reissue National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) permits for two facilities owned and operated by the Commonwealth Utility Corporation:

AGINGAN Wastewater Treatment Plant
(NPDES permit No. MP0020028)
Lililok Lane, Agingan Point
Saipan, MP 96950

SADOG TASI Wastewater Treatment Plant
(NPDES permit No. MP0020010)
Sadog Tasi Rd.
Saipan, MP 96950

EPA is soliciting comments on the reissuance of NPDES permits for two wastewater treatment plants on Saipan Island within the Commonwealth of Northern Marianas Islands. The Agingan Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection System discharges a monthly average 1.8 million gallons per day of treated wastewater to Tinian Channel. The Sadog Tasi Wastewater Treatment Plant and Wastewater Collection System discharges a monthly average 2.6 million gallons per day of treated wastewater to Saipan Lagoon. Each facility disposes of biosolids at a local landfill. Both facilities are classified as major dischargers.

These proposed permits are very similar to the previous permits (issued in 2017) but include several changes: lower discharge daily effluent limits for enterococcus (bacteria), an emergency response plan and an inspection of each discharge outfall to ensure full operational capacity.

The proposed permits and fact sheets can be found at: https://www.epa.gov/npdes-permits/npdes-permits-epas-pacific-southwest-region-9

To submit comments on the draft permit or draft factsheet for each NPDES permit, to request a public hearing, or to obtain more information or the administrative record, see EPA contact information below. If you need assistance in a language other than English or if you are a person with disabilities who needs a reasonable accommodation at no cost to you, please reach out by email or phone. EPA encourages electronic submittals, but if you are unable to submit electronically or need other assistance, please reach out to the contact information below.

Contact Information:
Peter Kozelka, kozelka.peter@epa.gov
EPA Region 9, NPDES Permit Section
75 Hawthorne St. Mail Code: WTR 2-3
San Francisco, CA 94105
Phone: (415) 972-3448

All data submitted by the applicant is available as part of the administrative record.
A request for a public hearing must be in writing and must state the nature of the issues proposed to be raised in the hearing.

Do not submit any information you consider to be Confidential Business Information. Multimedia submissions (audio, video, etc.) must be accompanied by a written comment. The written comment is considered the official comment and should include discussion of all points you wish to make.

Helicopter crashes in Hawaii lava field

A helicopter crashed in a lava field in Hawaii on Wednesday and all six people on board have been safely evacuated from the site, but two are in serious condition, officials said.

Cyrus Johnasen, a public information office for Hawaii County, said it was a tour helicopter with a pilot and five passengers. He said the pilot, a man in his 50s, had been trapped but was later extracted and was in serious but stable condition. An 18-year-old woman was reported in serious and worsening condition. Four people were reported as ambulatory.

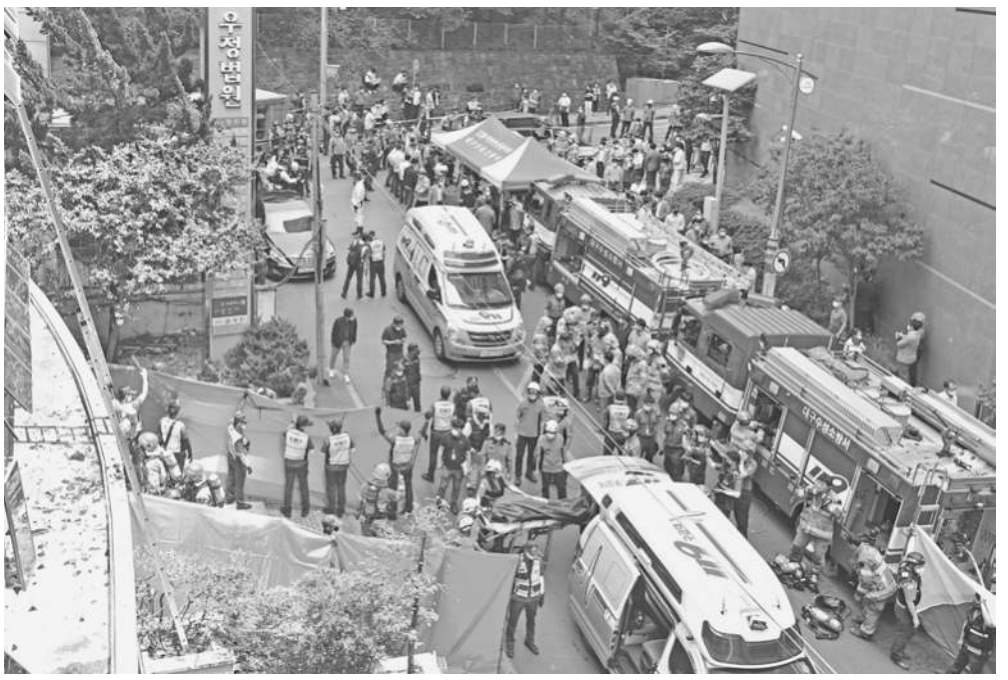
The initial report came in about 5 p.m. and said the aircraft had crashed near the southern most tip of the Big Island, Johnasen said. The site was inaccessible by vehicle so the Hawaii Fire Department sent two helicopters to take victims to ambulances waiting at nearby roads.

"It's a fluid situation," Mayor Mitch Roth said.

Johnasen said it was unclear if all six had been transported to hospitals or if emergency responders were continuing treatment themselves in the ambulances. ***(AP)***

Asia

Fire caused by alleged arson in South Korea kills at least 7



South Korean rescue teams and firefighters work at the scene in Daegu, South Korea, Thursday, June 9, 2022. AP

SEOUL, South Korea (AP)—A fire caused by suspected arson spread through an office building Thursday in South Korea's Daegu city, killing at least seven people and injuring dozens of others, local fire and police officials said.

Dozens of firefighters and vehicles were deployed and quickly put out the blaze, which began around 10:55 a.m. on the second floor of a seven-floor office building near the city's district court.

Seven people were confirmed as dead, including an unidentified man who police suspect set the fire in a lawyer's office. At least 41 people were hurt, mostly from smoke inhalation, and 26 of them were being treated at nearby hospitals, said Park Seok-jin, chief of Daegu's Suseong district fire department.

No other people were trapped in the building, Park said.

Jeong Hyeon-wook, an official from Daegu Metropolitan Police, said security camera footage shows the suspect leaving his home holding an apparent container with both hands that may have been used to set the blaze. Jeong said all of the dead victims were found in the same room and that police were investigating possible motives.

South Korean media published photos they said were received from witnesses that show smoke emerging from the building in Beomeo-dong, an affluent business district in Daegu, which is South Korea's fourth-largest city and home to more than 2.6 million people.

Other photos showed broken windows, which Park said were caused by rescue efforts.

Daegu was the site of one of the worst arson attacks in South Korea's history in 2003 when 192 people died after a 56-year-old man set fire on a subway train.

ASIAN BRIEFS

10 killed, 3 missing in central China flooding

BEIJING (AP)—At least 10 people have been killed and three are missing in flooding in the central Chinese province of Hunan, state media report. Storms have pummeled the province since the beginning of the month, with some monitoring stations reporting historic levels of rainfall, the Xinhua News Agency said late Wednesday. Around 1.8 million people have been affected in the largely rural, mountainous province—286,000 of whom have been evacuated to safety while more than 2,700 houses have been damaged or collapsed entirely, Xinhua said.

Japanese man arrested in Indonesia over COVID relief fraud

JAKARTA, Indonesia (AP)—Authorities on Indonesia's Sumatra island arrested a Japanese fugitive accused of helping steal $7.3 million intended for small businesses in Japan hurt by the coronavirus, police said Wednesday. Mitsuhiro Taniguchi, 47, was arrested late Tuesday at a house owned by a fish trader in Central Lampung district by immigration officers backed by local police, National Police spokesperson Dedi Prasetyo said. "He told the house owner that he wants to invest in fisheries in the area," Prasetyo said, adding that Taniguchi had stayed at the house for about two weeks before authorities located him. Taniguchi was wanted by Japanese police for COVID-19 subsidy fraud and left Japan for Indonesia in October 2020, Prasetyo said.

Thai police sentenced to life for killing drug suspect

BANGKOK (AP)—A former Thai police colonel nicknamed "Jo Ferrari" for his extravagant collection of luxury cars was sentenced with five subordinates Wednesday to life in prison for the torture and killing of a drug suspect from whom they were trying to extort money. Allegations of corruption and rough treatment of suspects by police in Thailand are not unusual. But the assault on the suspect on Aug. 5 last year was captured on video, causing a public uproar when a lawyer who received it from a whistleblower, a junior policeman, posted it on social media. The video appears to show Col. Thitisan Utthanaphon, chief of the station in Nakhon Sawan province, north of Bangkok, directing other officers to assault the suspect, Jirapong Thanapat, after he was brought into a room handcuffed with a black plastic bag over his head.

World

AS GLOBAL FOOD CRISIS LOOMS

More bodies found in Mariupol

BAKHMUT, Ukraine (AP)—The human cost of the war in Ukraine mounted as workers pulled up to 100 bodies from each smashed building in the devastated city of Mariupol—a gruesome effort that one official described as an "endless caravan of death."

Meanwhile, fears of a global food crisis escalated over Ukraine's inability to export millions of tons of grain through its blockaded ports.

At the same time, Ukrainian and Russian forces battled fiercely Wednesday for control of Sievierodonestk, a city that has emerged as central to Moscow's grinding campaign to capture Ukraine's eastern industrial heartland, known as the Donbas.

Many buildings in Mariupol contain 50 to 100 bodies each, according to a mayoral aide in the Russian-held port city in the south.

Petro Andryushchenko said on the Telegram app that the bodies are being taken in an "endless caravan of death" to a morgue, landfills and other places. At least 21,000 Mariupol civilians were killed during the weeks-long Russian siege, Ukrainian authorities have estimated.

The consequences of the war are being felt far beyond Eastern Europe because shipments of Ukrainian grain are bottled up inside the country, driving up the price of food.

Ukraine, long known as the "bread basket of Europe," is one of the world's biggest exporters of wheat, corn and sunflower oil, but much of that flow has been halted by the war and a Russian blockade of Ukraine's Black Sea coast. An estimated 22 million tons of grain remains in Ukraine. The failure to ship it out is endangering the food supply in many developing countries, especially in Africa.

Russia expressed support Wednesday for a U.N. plan to create a safe corridor at sea that would allow Ukraine to resume grain shipments. The plan, among other things, calls for Ukraine to remove mines from the waters near the Black Sea port of Odesa.

But Russia is insisting that it be allowed to check incoming vessels for weapons. And Ukraine has expressed fear that clearing the mines could enable Russia to attack the coast. Ukrainian officials said the Kremlin's assurances that it wouldn't do that cannot be trusted.

European Council President Charles Michel on Wednesday accused the Kremlin of "weaponizing food supplies and surrounding their actions with a web of lies, Soviet-style."

While Russia, which is also a major supplier of grain to the rest of the world, has blamed the looming food crisis on Western sanctions against Moscow, the European Union heatedly denied that and said the blame rests with Russia itself for waging war against Ukraine.

"These are Russian ships and Russian missiles that are blocking the export of crops and grain," Michel said. "Russian tanks, bombs and mines are preventing Ukraine from planting and harvesting."

WORLD BRIEFS

Official: Gang in Haiti releases 3 of 8 Turkish citizens

PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AP)—A gang in Haiti has released three of eight Turkish citizens kidnapped nearly a month ago in the country's capital, an official said Wednesday. Hugues Josue, Turkey's honorary consul in Haiti, told The Associated Press that three women were released, adding that he had no further details. The three women were part of a group that included five Turkish men who had boarded a bus in the neighboring Dominican Republic in early May and were kidnapped hours later in the Croix-des-Bouquets neighborhood of Port-au-Prince, which is controlled by the 400 Mawozo gang. It wasn't immediately clear if those responsible for kidnapping the Turkish citizens had been demanding a ransom, or if any was paid. Police did not return requests for comment.

Driver hits school group in Berlin; 1 dead, 9 badly hurt

BERLIN (AP)—A man drove a car into a German school group in a popular Berlin shopping district Wednesday, killing a teacher and seriously injuring nine people, authorities said. He was quickly arrested. The man drove into people on a street corner around 10:30 a.m., got the car back on the road and then crashed into a shop window about a block away, police said. The driver was apparently detained by passers-by and then arrested swiftly by a police officer near the scene. Berlin's top security official, Iris Spranger, said the woman killed was a teacher on a trip to the German capital with students from a secondary school in the central German state of Hesse. Authorities spent hours working to determine whether it was a deliberate attack or an accident. On Wednesday evening, Spranger made it clear on Twitter that authorities now believe it was the former, describing it an "amok act by a psychologically impaired person."

Six people sustained life-threatening injuries and another three were seriously injured, fire service spokesman Adrian Wentzel. Police said 14 students from Hesse were among those who sustained injuries of varying severity, but didn't give a total tally.

WHO: COVID cases and deaths falling nearly everywhere

GENEVA (AP)—The number of new coronavirus cases and deaths reported globally fell everywhere last week except the Middle East and Southeast Asia, according to the World Health Organization. In its latest weekly update on the pandemic, the U.N. health agency said Wednesday that confirmed cases dropped 12% to more than 3 million and reported deaths declined 22% to about 7,600. WHO Director-General Tedros Adhanom Ghebreyesus described the continuing decline of COVID-19, which peaked in January, as "a very encouraging trend." Still, he warned that the pandemic was not yet over and urged caution, even as many countries have dropped their coronavirus protocols and shifted into trying to live with the virus. Tedros noted that 18 months after the first mass coronavirus immunization programs began in rich countries, 68 countries around the world have yet to protect 40% of their people. While enough vaccines are now available, demand has fallen, he said.

Off The Wall

Iditarod dog found months after disappearing from a checkpoint

By YVONNE GONZALEZ
ASSOCIATED PRESS

AP

In this photo provided by Regal Air, musher Sebastien Dos Santos Borges, of France, and sled dog Leon arrive in Anchorage, Alaska, Saturday, June 4, 2022, after being reunited.

An Iditarod sled dog was found safe after disappearing from a checkpoint in the race three months ago and covering nearly 150 miles, the Iditarod Trail Committee said Saturday.

Musher Sebastien Dos Santos Borges of France was picking Leon up and returning with him to France, the trail committee said in a statement.

Leon went missing in March after what the trail committee said was his "escape" from the Ruby checkpoint. In May, residents of the Alaska city of McGrath, over 120 miles south of the checkpoint, reported to Race Director Mark Nordman that they'd seen Leon frequently near a cabin.

The resident of the cabin and another musher left food for Leon in the hopes of catching him, according to the trail committee. He was captured early Saturday morning and was safe, alert and "understandably skinny but seemingly healthy," said Iditarod spokesperson Shannon Markley.

Leon was expected to see a veterinarian in the coming days and needs a health certificate before he can fly back to France, Markley said.

The nearly 1,000-mile (1,609-kilometer) race across Alaska began March 6 just north of Anchorage. The route took mushers along Alaska's untamed and unforgiving wilderness, including two mountain ranges, the frozen Yukon River and Bering Sea ice along the state's western coastline. Brent Sass won the race March 15 when he crossed under the famed burled arch finish line in Nome.

On March 12, a dozen dogs had arrived with Dos Santos Borges in Ruby, a checkpoint just under 500 miles from the start of the race.

Dos Santos Borges left Ruby on March 13 with 11 dogs, and scratched days later with nine dogs after the checkpoint in White Mountain, located just under 900 miles (1,448 kilometers) into the race.

329 years later, last Salem 'witch' is pardoned

BOSTON (AP)—It took more than three centuries, but the last Salem "witch" who wasn't has been officially pardoned.

Massachusetts lawmakers on Thursday formally exonerated Elizabeth Johnson Jr., clearing her name 329 years after she was convicted of witchcraft in 1693 and sentenced to death at the height of the Salem Witch Trials.

Johnson was never executed, but neither was she officially pardoned like others wrongly accused of witchcraft.

Lawmakers agreed to reconsider her case last year after a curious eighth-grade civics class at North Andover Middle School took up her cause and researched the legislative steps needed to clear her name.

Subsequent legislation introduced by state Sen. Diana DiZoglio, a Democrat from Methuen, was tacked onto a budget bill and approved.

"We will never be able to change what happened to victims like Elizabeth but at the very least can set the record straight," DiZoglio said.

In a statement, North Andover teacher Carrie LaPierre—whose students championed the legislation—praised the youngsters for taking on "the long-overlooked issue of justice for this wrongly convicted woman."

"Passing this legislation will be incredibly impactful on their understanding of how important it is to stand up for people who cannot advocate for themselves and how strong of a voice they actually have," she said.

Johnson is the last accused witch to be cleared, according to Witches of Massachusetts Bay, a group devoted to the history and lore of the 17th-century witch hunts.

"For 300 years, Elizabeth Johnson Jr. was without a voice, her story lost to the passages of time," said state Sen. Joan Lovely, of Salem,

Twenty people from Salem and neighboring towns were killed and hundreds of others accused during a frenzy of Puritan injustice that began in 1692, stoked by superstition, fear of disease and strangers, scapegoating and petty jealousies. Nineteen were hanged, and one man was crushed to death by rocks.

Johnson was 22 when she was caught up in the hysteria of the witch trials and sentenced to hang. That never happened: Then-Gov. William Phips threw out her punishment as the magnitude of the gross miscarriages of justice in Salem sank in.

In the more than three centuries that have ensued, dozens of suspects officially were cleared, including Johnson's own mother, the daughter of a minister whose conviction eventually was reversed.

But for some reason, Johnson's name wasn't included in various legislative attempts to set the record straight. Because she wasn't among those whose convictions were formally set aside, hers still technically stood. Unlike others wrongfully accused, Johnson never had children and thus had no descendants to act on her behalf.

"Elizabeth's story and struggle continue to greatly resonate today," DiZoglio said. "While we've come a long way since the horrors of the witch trials, women today still all too often find their rights challenged and concerns dismissed."

Science & Technology

Microsoft, Amazon racing to build new kind of computer

By LAUREN ROSENBLATT
THE SEATTLE TIMES

SEATTLE—The tech giants are locked in a race.

It might not end for another decade, and there might not be just one winner. But, at the finish line, the prize they promise is a speedy machine, a quantum computer, that will crack in minutes problems that can't be solved at all today. Builders describe revolutionary increases in computing power that will accelerate the development of artificial intelligence, help design new drugs and offer new solutions to help fight climate change.

Ready. Set. Quantum.

Relying on principles of physics and computer science, researchers are working to build a quantum computer, a machine that will go beyond the capabilities of the computers we use today by moving through information faster. Unlike the laptop screen we're used to, quantum computers display all their inner organs. Often cylindrical, the computers are an intimidating network of coils, plates, wires and bolts. And they're huge.

"We're talking about computing devices which are just unimaginable in terms of their power in what they can do," said Peter Chapman, president and CEO of IonQ, a startup in the race alongside tech giants Microsoft, Amazon, Google, IBM, Intel and Honeywell.

The companies are riding a swell of interest that could grow to $9.1 billion in revenue by 2030, according to Tractica, a market intelligence firm that studies new technologies and how humans interact with tech advancements.

NASA to launch 3 rockets from private Australian port

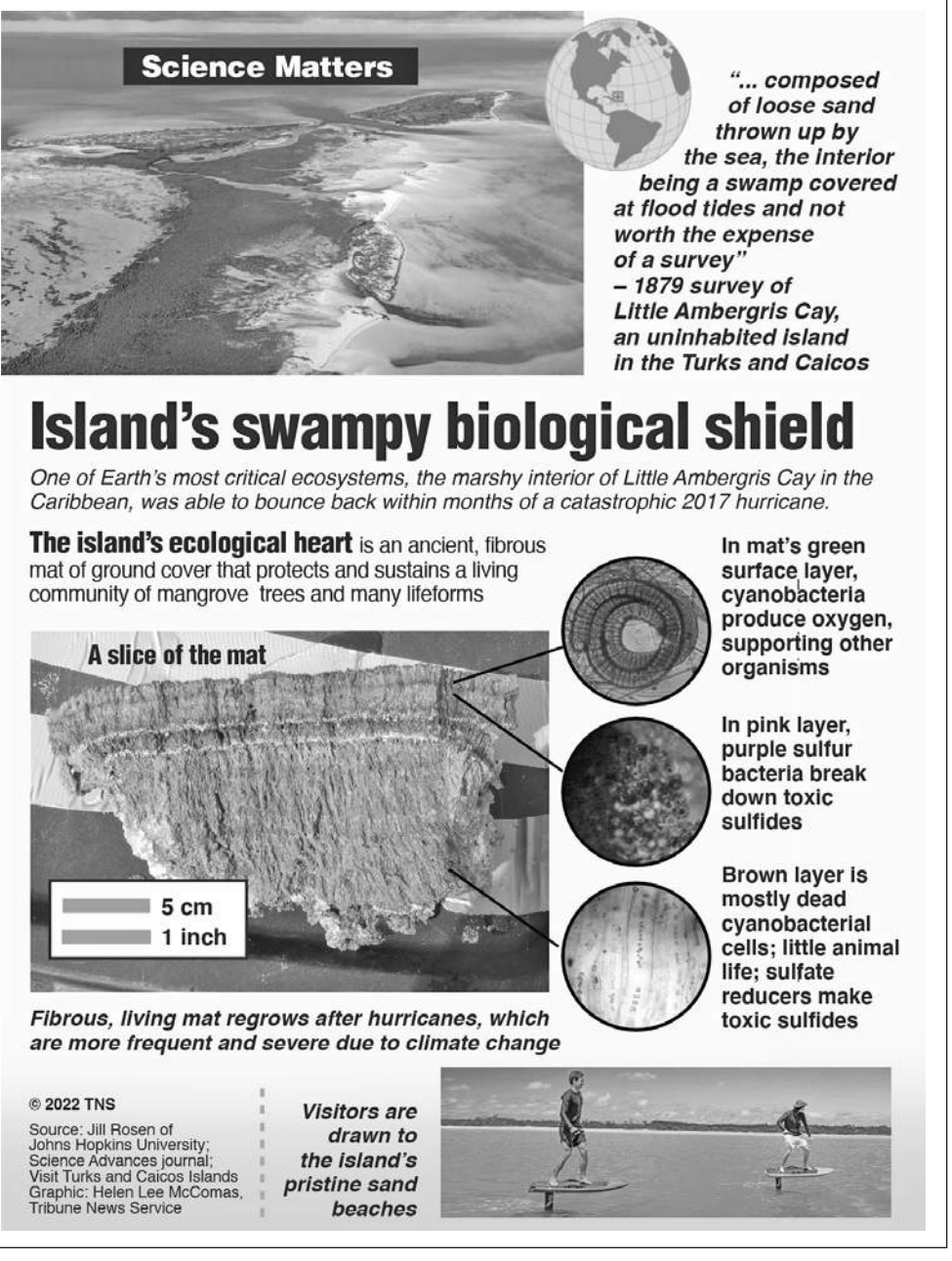
CANBERRA, Australia (AP)—NASA will launch a research rocket from remote northern Australia this month in the agency's first blast off from a commercial space port outside the United States.

Three suborbital sounding rockets will be launched from the Arnhem Space Center on Indigenous-owned land near the mining town of Nhulunbuy in the Northern Territory on June 26, July 4 and 12, said NASA and the launch pad's owner, Equatorial Launch Australia.

The launch site was chosen because it is in the Southern Hemisphere and close to the equator.

"This commercial launch range in Australia opens up new access to the Southern Hemisphere's night sky, expanding the possibilities for future science missions," NASA associate administrator for the Science Mission Directorate Thomas Zurbuchen said in a statement.

The 12.2-meter (40-foot), 2,200-kilogram (4,900-pound), Canadian-designed Black Brant IX rockets would focus on the Alpha Centauri A and B star systems. A third mission would study X-rays emanating from the interstellar medium—the clouds of gases and particles in the space between stars.


Science Matters
"... composed of loose sand thrown up by the sea, the interior being a swamp covered at flood tides and not worth the expense of a survey" – 1879 survey of Little Ambergris Cay, an uninhabited island in the Turks and Caicos
Island's swampy biological shield
One of Earth's most critical ecosystems, the marshy interior of Little Ambergris Cay in the Caribbean, was able to bounce back within months of a catastrophic 2017 hurricane.
The island's ecological heart is an ancient, fibrous mat of ground cover that protects and sustains a living community of mangrove trees and many lifeforms
A slice of the mat
5 cm
1 inch
In mat's green surface layer, cyanobacteria produce oxygen, supporting other organisms
In pink layer, purple sulfur bacteria break down toxic sulfides
Brown layer is mostly dead cyanobacterial cells; little animal life; sulfate reducers make toxic sulfides
Fibrous, living mat regrows after hurricanes, which are more frequent and severe due to climate change
© 2022 TNS
Source: Jill Rosen of Johns Hopkins University; Science Advances journal; Visit Turks and Caicos Islands
Graphic: Helen Lee McComas, Tribune News Service
Visitors are drawn to the island's pristine sand beaches

Life & Style

Cosby in video testimony denies sex abuse of teen in 1970s

SANTA MONICA, Calif. (AP)—In video testimony played for jurors Wednesday at a civil trial, Bill Cosby denies sexually abusing a teenage girl at the Playboy Mansion in the mid-1970s.

Asked by an attorney for Judy Huth, who is suing Cosby, whether he had tried to put his hand down Huth's pants, Cosby quickly and clearly answers "no." Asked if he exposed himself and forced her to touch him sexually, Cosby answers "no" in the same way.

Asked whether it was possible that these things happened but Cosby didn't remember them, Cosby answered "no."

"Why would that not be possible?" Huth's attorney Nathan Goldberg asks.

"Because," Cosby replies, "the fact that this young lady is saying that she told me she was 15."

In another clip, Goldberg asks Cosby if he would knowingly have relationships with girls who were under 18 in the mid-1970s. Cosby answers "no." But he also says "no" when asked whether he would make sure those he sought sexual relationships with were 18.

At the time the video deposition was taken, on Oct. 9, 2015, Huth maintained that the molestation had taken place in 1973 or 1974, when she was 15, but shortly before trial said an examination of the evidence showed it was in 1975, when she was 16.

Cosby

The 12 minutes of clips, played for the jury at the end of the sixth day of the trial in Los Angeles County, represent the first time Cosby's voice was heard during the proceedings. He's wearing a gray sportscoat with a dress shirt and tie and sitting at a table.

The 85-year-old actor and comedian is not attending the trial due to glaucoma that has left him blind, his representatives said. A judge also ruled that he could invoke his Fifth Amendment privilege and decline to testify or to give a second deposition in the case that the plaintiff had sought.

Prosecutors: R. Kelly should get at least 25 years in prison

NEW YORK (AP)—R. Kelly, the R&B superstar known for his anthem "I Believe I Can Fly," deserves at least 25 years behind bars for sexually abusing women and girls, prosecutors said in a memo filed Wednesday in advance of his sentencing later this month.

Kelly

A New York City jury found Kelly guilty of racketeering and multiple other counts last year at a sex-trafficking trial that was seen as a signature moment in the #MeToo movement. Prosecutors alleged that the entourage of managers and aides who helped Kelly meet girls—and keep them obedient—amounted to a criminal enterprise.

Several accusers testified in lurid detail during the trial, alleging that Kelly subjected his victims to perverse and sadistic whims when they were underage.

Kelly used his "fame, money and popularity" to systematically "prey upon children and young women for his own sexual gratification," prosecutors wrote in the filing.

"He continued his crimes and avoided punishment for them for almost 30 years and must now be held to account," prosecutors wrote.

Kelly's lawyers have argued that he deserves only a maximum of about 17 years in prison under federal sentencing guidelines.

Among multiple sordid allegations, jurors heard testimony about a fraudulent marriage scheme hatched to protect Kelly after he feared he had impregnated R&B phenom Aaliyah in 1994 when she was just 15. Witnesses said they were married in matching jogging suits using a license falsely listing her age as 18; he was 27 at the time.

Aaliyah worked with Kelly, who wrote and produced her 1994 debut album, "Age Ain't Nothing But A Number." She died in a plane crash in 2001 at age 22.

Hawaii photographer finds fine art in massive Pacific waves

AP

Clark Little takes a selfie as he photographs waves on the North Shore of Oahu near Haleiwa, Hawaii.

HALEIWA, Hawaii (AP)—Hawaii photographer Clark Little is known for his stunning images from inside the barrels of some of the most powerful and dangerous waves on Earth.

The native of Oahu's North Shore has spent the last 15 years documenting shorebreak waves, the monster swells that roll in from the Pacific and crash directly onto the sand, unobstructed by reefs or shallow water.

Little just released a book, "The Art of Waves," that chronicles his adventures in the ocean. It contains more than 150 of his favorite images.

"Shorebreak is so beautiful and scary at the same time," Little said. "I used to surf the shorebreak, so ... it's my comfort zone. I like sand bottom. I think it has more aqua beautiful colors."

New York woman finds lost dachshund—in Hilary Swank's lap

By BOBBY CAINA CALVAN
ASSOCIATED PRESS

Chelsea Blackwell's dachshund, Blue, disappeared Monday, and the distraught owner went in search.

She drove for an hour before coming upon a line of squad cars and people with cameras near the Greyhound bus station in Albany, New York, and set aside her search to investigate.

"I pulled over and thought, oh man, did someone get shot? What's going on?" she said Wednesday. "I mean, there were like eight police cars. There was like all these people with cameras."

Fortunately, tragedy did not lurk—Blackwell had stumbled upon a movie crew—and her search ended in a one-in-a-million lucky happenstance.

Her dog of 15 years was found—by a movie star with a history of rescuing dogs.

"I started asking everybody if they saw my small brown dog," she said.

"You won't believe this," she said the crew told her, but a celebrity had found her pooch.

A phone call and about an hour later, a gray car pulled up, and there was tiny Blue sitting in the lap of two-time Oscar winner Hilary Swank.

"I was like, 'No way,'" Blackwell said. "As soon as she got out of the car, I kissed Blue and said, 'Thank you so much.'"

Blackwell asked Swank for her autograph, but Swank did better: They took a picture.

"I'd stopped and asked if someone seen a little brown dog? A man walked over to my car and said, 'Yes, this woman picked him up,'" she wrote in her post.

"I said who? He replied, a celebrity," Blackwell wrote. "He called the person who had him. And they said she's on her way back. You'll never guess who had him?"

The Million Dollar Baby herself.

"She's not the type of person," Blackwell said, "who's going to blow the horn telling people what she did."

Swank is no stranger to rescuing dogs.

Man struggles amid changes after close friend's passing

DEAR ABBY: I'm a gay man. A friend of more than 20 years, "Marci," passed away eight months ago after battling cancer for four years. Just a month after the funeral, her wife, "Julia," started dating. She was engaged four months later and married "Leslie" seven months after that. When they started dating, Leslie was still legally married. My husband and I are godfathers to the one child Marci and Julia had.

I don't trust Leslie. I think she took advantage of a person who was grieving. She's a nurse and should know better. I don't like Leslie, and I don't like her kids either. They moved into the house Marci and Julia had built together just a few months after Marci's funeral.

I have pretty much removed myself from the situation. I no longer go to dinners or social gatherings with them. Seeing them together makes my heart hurt and stomach ache. My husband still goes out with them and seems to have no issue with it. It has caused problems between us at times. He doesn't understand my feelings, and I can't understand how he can support them. Can you help me cope with this or tell me how I can get him to see my side and end the friendship?

STILL MOURNING MARCI

DEAR STILL MOURNING: It might help your husband be more sympathetic to your feelings if you explain you're still in deep mourning over the loss of a beloved friend, and it affects you physically when you see Julia and Leslie together. He is able to "support them" because, even though their relationship may seem premature, he recognizes they have continued on with their lives.

A way to cope with your pain would be to make a conscious effort to forgive them for their haste AND KEEP FOREMOST IN YOUR MIND THAT YOU PROMISED MARCI YOU WOULD BE A GODPARENT TO HER CHILD. The most effective way for that to happen would be to be present in her child's life in a way that doesn't always involve the parents.

■■■■

DEAR ABBY: I have a co-worker— and great friend— who washes her hair maybe once a week and uses dry shampoo in between. (One day, I thought she had gray roots because the dry shampoo was so thick.) I know many people do this, but her hair is excessively oily, and it looks unsightly and unprofessional when she comes to work. It has reached the point that several co-workers (and even an ex-boyfriend of hers) have asked me why she doesn't wash her hair more often because it looks so dirty.

I feel embarrassed for her, but I don't know how to bring it up and suggest that maybe shampooing more often would be better. Even when we have a night out on the town and she has all day to get ready, she still shows up with her hair a greasy mess, slicked back in a clip. Maybe she doesn't realize the impression she is giving. Do I say something to her?

FRIEND WHO CARES IN MISSOURI

DEAR FRIEND: Good friends take care of each other and watch each other's backs. If the situation were reversed, wouldn't you want to hear it from someone you know cares about you?

■■■■

Good advice for everyone – teens to seniors – is in "The Anger in All of Us and How to Deal With It." To order, send your name and mailing address, plus check or money order for $8 (U.S. funds) to: Dear Abby, Anger Booklet, P.O. Box 447, Mount Morris, IL 61054-0447. (Shipping and handling are included in the price.)

DEAR ABBY

By ABIGAIL VAN BUREN
UNIVERSAL PRESS SYNDICATE

Dear Abby is written by Abigail Van Buren, also known as Jeanne Phillips, and was founded by her mother, Pauline Phillips. Contact Dear Abby at www.DearAbby.com or P.O. Box 69440, Los Angeles, CA 90069.

Pastimes

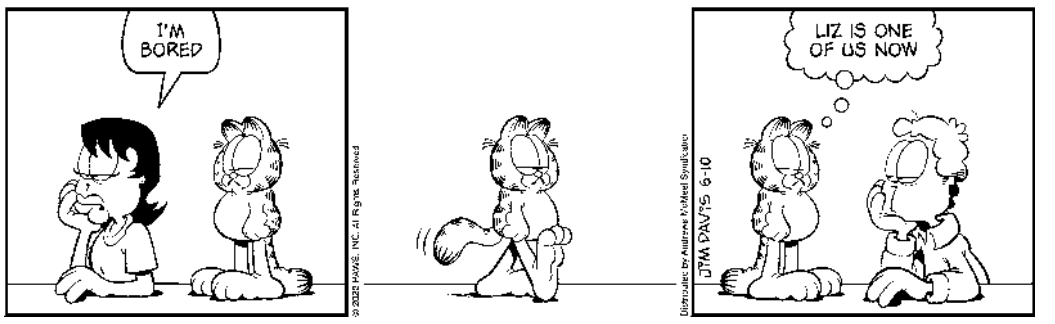
Calvin and Hobbes

By Bill Waterson

THIS TOWN JUST AINT BIG ENOUGH FER THE BOTH OF US!
YEP, I RECKON WE'LL HAVE TO ANNEX PART O' THE COUNTY.
MOM WON'T LET US PLAY WITH GUNS.
I GET TO BE THE ZONING BOARD.
WATTERSON 5-10

Garfield®

By Jim Davis



Adam@home

By Bryan Basset

I TALKED TO KATY.
OKAY, GOOD.
SHE PROMISED TO BE LESS DEMANDING AT THE POOL.
THANKS, DAD.
THAT SAID, SHE SOMEHOW CONVINCED ME TO MAKE HER THIS SANDWICH.
IT'S WEIRD, RIGHT? I SWEAR SHE'S STUDYING HYPNOTISM!
6-10

The Duplex

By Glenn McCoy

CROSSWORD

By Eugene Sheffer

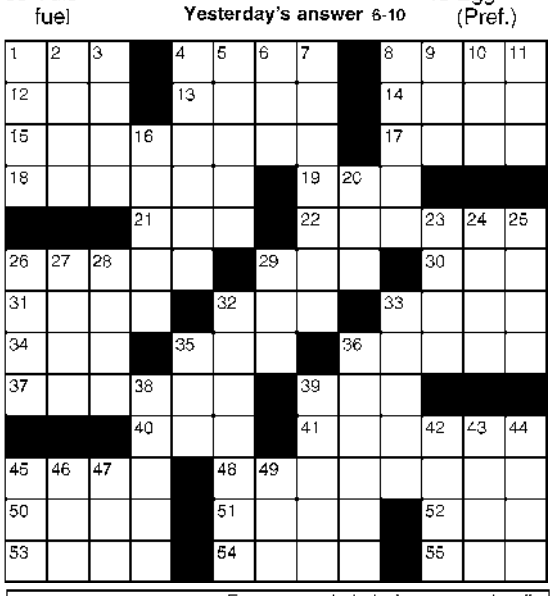
ACROSS
1 Crow's cry
4 Untalkative one
8 "Be quiet ..."
12 "Love Story" actress MacGraw
13 Angelic light
14 Crunchy cookie
15 Helena resident
17 Squad
18 Arizona resort
19 Luggage tags, e.g.
21 Biol. or chem.
22 Big Apple borough
26 Pasta topper
29 Center
30 "Wham!"
31 Goya's duchess
32 One of the Stooges
33 1492 vessel
34 Fr. holy woman
35 Yule fuel
36 "Be silent," in music
37 Lend an ear
39 Wet dirt
40 Summer sign
41 "No One" singer Keys
45 iPhone voice
48 Large butterflies
50 Bard's river
51 Squared
52 Camp bed
53 Chromosome part
54 Valentine flower
55 Wall St. debut

DOWN
1 Engine parts
2 Skin soother
3 Kite flier's need
4 Opportunity
5 Island porch
6 Carte lead-in
7 "Precious" Oscar winner
8 Dwelling
9 Coffee vessel
10 Six, in Sicily
11 Sizzling
16 Puccini opera
20 Name
23 Grand tale
24 Zilch
25 Whack
26 Obi
27 Utah ski resort
28 Cab alternative
29 Glutton
32 Chemical compound
33 Bottom
35 Director Spike
36 New Orleans campus
38 Actor Kevin
39 Lions' prides
42 Roman 301
43 Breakfast chain
44 Regarding
45 Colson Whitehead's "— Harbor"
46 "— been had!"
47 Harry Potter pal
49 Egg (Pref.)

Solution time: 25 mins.

P	O	S	H	■	F	L	A	P	■	G	L	M
C	S	L	O	■	E	A	V	E	■	A	N	O
S	H	A	R	P	E	N	E	R	■	R	D	S
E	A	T	S	A	T	■	■	K	U	D	O	S
■	■	■	E	L	■	T	H	Y	M	E	■	■
M	O	M	S	■	M	A	I	■	A	N	E	W
A	L	I	■	■	A	L	L	■	■	E	P	A
P	E	C	S	■	I	L	L	■	B	R	I	G
■	■	H	O	L	L	Y	■	M	A	■	■	■
G	R	E	T	A	■	■	P	A	R	O	L	E
L	O	N	■	S	W	E	E	T	E	N	E	R
A	M	E	■	T	A	B	O	■	L	E	A	R
M	A	R	■	S	C	A	N	■	V	I	P	S

Yesterday's answer 6-10



STUMPED? For answers to today's crossword, call **1-900-226-5955**! 99¢ per minute, touch-tone/rotary phones. (18+ only.) A King Features service, NYC.

CELEBRITIES BORN ON THIS DAY: Kate Upton, 30; Leelee Sobieski, 39; Shane West, 44; DJ Qualls, 44.

Happy Birthday: Choose your words wisely. Misinterpretation will stand between you and what you want. Leave nothing to chance or up to others to handle for you. Explore how you feel about your options; take the path that suits you best. Don't feel married to someone's ideas and plans when you have your own to pursue. Balance and integrity will enhance the outcome. Your numbers are 7, 15, 19, 23, 32, 36, 48.

ARIES *(March 21-April 19):* Be realistic. Don't believe everything you hear or take on more than you can handle. Emphasize what you can do to tidy up loose ends. A heart-to-heart chat with a friend or relative will help you put your life in perspective. ✪✪✪

TAURUS *(April 20-May 20):* Take care of money matters, your reputation and your position. Leave nothing to chance or up to someone likely to step in and take over. Keeping your opinions and plans to yourself will make your life easier. ✪✪✪

GEMINI *(May 21-June 20):* Do the research. A biased opinion will cause uncertainty, leaving you in a vulnerable position. Go over details, rules and regulations, and make sure you have taken care of anything that can negatively influence what you are trying to achieve. ✪✪✪✪

CANCER *(June 21-July 22):* Get expert advice before initiating change or starting something new. Make sure your plans fit your budget, and prepare to go the distance before you begin. A physical change will help decide how you want to evolve. ✪✪

LEO *(July 23-Aug. 22):* Challenging yourself physically will ease stress. Put your energy into something that matters to you, and you'll find a way to make a difference. Home improvement projects will give you a new lease on life. Stick to a budget. ✪✪✪✪

VIRGO *(Aug. 23-Sept. 22):* A change will lift your spirits and put you in the mood to get out and have fun with friends or spend a romantic day with someone you love. Worry less about what others think. Do what makes you happy. ✪✪✪

LIBRA *(Sept. 23-Oct. 22):* You'll have the drive and stamina to get things done. Refuse to let someone get in your way or take over. Map out your plan and go about your business. What you learn through experience and doing things yourself will pay off. ✪✪✪

SCORPIO *(Oct. 23-Nov. 21):* Keep life simple. Don't get into an emotional tiff with a friend, relative or peer. Plan your next move or fix up your space to make it easier to handle your responsibilities. Find an exciting way to use your talents. ✪✪✪

SAGITTARIUS *(Nov. 22-Dec. 21):* Make yourself comfortable by improving your surroundings. Take charge of your happiness, and don't give anyone the chance to ruin your day. Get together with someone who challenges you to be better. A partnership looks promising. ✪✪✪

EUGENIA LAST

THE LAST WORD IN ASTROLOGY

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CAPRICORN *(Dec. 22-Jan. 19):* Spend more time pampering and pleasing yourself. A couple of changes at home will make you feel at ease and assist you in distancing yourself from someone who is a bad influence. Say no to unrestrained behavior. ✪✪✪✪

AQUARIUS *(Jan. 20-Feb. 18):* Take a moment to figure out what others want or expect from you. Don't feel you have to make a change because someone else does. Stick close to home and work on projects that will make you feel good about your life. ✪✪✪✪✪

PISCES *(Feb. 19-March 20):* Keep personal and financial information to yourself. The fewer things others know about you, the easier it will be to avoid being asked for handouts and favors and feeling the need to take on responsibilities that don't belong to you. Protect your assets and reputation. ✪✪✪

Birthday Baby: You are persistent, innovative and thoughtful. You are ambitious and diligent.

✪: Avoid conflicts; work behind the scenes. ✪✪: You can accomplish, but don't rely on others. ✪✪✪: Focus and you'll reach your goals. ✪✪✪✪: Aim high; start new projects. ✪✪✪✪✪: Nothing can stop you; go for gold.

SUDOKU

Conceptis Sudoku *By Dave Green*

6			9				1	
		7	6					2
	3		7					
8	4	1	5					
					6	4	9	1
					2		3	
1					5	2		
	5				1			6

Difficulty Level ★★★★ 6/10

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Sudoku is a number-placing puzzle based on a 9x9 grid with several given numbers. The object is to place the numbers 1 to 9 in the empty squares so that each row, each column and each 3x3 box contains the same number only once. The difficulty level of the Conceptis Sudoku increases from Monday to Saturday.

Yesterday's Answer

8	1	3	6	7	4	5	9	2
9	2	4	5	3	8	7	1	6
7	6	5	1	9	2	4	8	3
1	7	9	2	4	5	3	6	8
6	5	8	7	1	3	9	2	4
3	4	2	8	6	9	1	5	7
4	8	1	3	5	6	2	7	9
5	3	6	9	2	7	8	4	1
2	9	7	4	8	1	6	3	5

Difficulty Level ★★★★

WONDERWORD®

By DAVID OUELLET

HOW TO PLAY: All the words listed below appear in the puzzle — horizontally, vertically, diagonally and even backward. Find them, circle each letter of the word and strike it off the list. The leftover letters spell the **WONDERWORD.**

A TASTY CANNOLI Solution: 8 letters

L	D	S	I	D	R	A	H	F	I	L	L	I	N	G
E	A	E	C	S	T	O	R	E	Y	R	E	K	A	B
T	A	N	H	T	C	I	V	F	L	O	U	R	L	R
S	L	H	O	S	S	Y	K	A	L	F	D	H	M	A
A	H	C	C	I	U	E	K	L	L	O	D	O	O	G
T	I	E	O	O	T	R	Z	L	N	F	I	M	N	U
R	S	C	L	S	M	I	C	I	I	H	P	E	D	S
E	T	R	A	L	A	I	D	N	C	M	P	M	E	E
S	L	E	T	K	P	L	I	A	R	A	E	A	G	L
S	E	A	E	E	E	T	T	V	R	E	D	D	N	K
E	M	M	C	T	A	S	E	B	U	T	D	E	A	N
D	O	A	H	L	I	R	E	C	I	P	E	W	R	I
N	N	G	I	P	I	Z	Z	E	L	L	E	E	O	R
S	I	A	P	E	P	P	E	R	M	I	N	T	W	P
L	N	E	S	E	E	H	C	L	A	S	S	I	C	S

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Almond, Bakery, Cake, Cheese, Chocolate Chips, Classic, Cream, Crushed, Dessert, Dipped, Filling, Flaky, Flavor, Flour, Gardoni, Hard, Homemade, Italian, Lemon, Light, Melts, Milk, Mocha, Orange, Pecans, Peppermint, Pistachio, Pizzelle, Powder, Recipe, Ricotta, Salt, Shell, Sprinkles, Store, Sugar, Sweet, Taste, Traditional, Tube, Vanilla, Zest

Yesterday's Answer: Pamphlet

To purchase Jo's Jewels Collector's Edition visit www.WonderWordBooks.com or call 1-800-642-6480.

Celtics beat Warriors, 116-100, take 2-1 lead in NBA Finals

BOSTON (AP)— Throughout the postseason, the Boston Celtics had played their best basketball away from home.

Not anymore.

Jaylen Brown scored 27 points, Jayson Tatum added 26 and the Celtics rode the energy of a raucous TD Garden crowd to beat back another third-quarter onslaught by Golden State in a 116-100 victory Wednesday night that gave them a 2-1 lead in the NBA Finals.

Marcus Smart added 24 points and helped fuel a defensive effort that held the Warriors to 11 points in the fourth quarter — third-fewest in a finals game in the shot clock era.

"Game 2, they brought the heat to us," Smart said. "For us, that left a bad taste in our mouth because what we hang our hat on is effort on the defensive end and being a physical team. It definitely woke us up a little bit."

Tatum said the fact the Celtics didn't hang their heads after the Warriors' third-quarter flourish is something they didn't always do in the regular season.

"I think that's when we are at our best when we respond to tough situations. We respond to teams going on runs and things like that," he said. "I think we did that several times tonight."

Boston improved to 6-4 at home, compared to 8-3 on the road this postseason. The Celtics haven't lost two straight games since the end of March.

Stephen Curry led Golden State with 31 points and six 3-pointers. He had 15 points in a 33-25 third quarter by the Warriors but was hurt late in the fourth after Al Horford rolled into his leg on a loose ball. It was similar to a play during the regular season in which Smart dove into Curry's legs while chasing a loose ball.

Klay Thompson broke out of a finals slump and finished with 25 points and five 3s. But the Warriors' shooting couldn't save them on a night the more athletic Celtics outmuscled them for a 47-31 rebounding advantage.

"When you allow a team to get comfortable, especially in their home -- in front the home crowd, then it's tough," Warriors forward Draymond Green said.

Robert Williams III, who has been working his way back from knee surgery, finished with eight points, 10 rebounds and four blocks.

"We talked about it quite a bit, our group being resilient and being able to fight through a lot of things and at times when it's most needed being able to lock down on defense," Celtics coach Ime Udoka said. "We did in the fourth quarter,"

Game 4 is Friday in Boston.

Despite Curry's noticeable limp after the play with Horford, Warriors coach Steve Kerr said it was not why he pulled him from the game in the closing minutes.

"The injury didn't force him out of the game, but I took him out down 14 with two minutes left because we weren't going to catch up," Kerr said. "We will know more tomorrow."

The previous 39 times teams have split the first two games of the finals, the winner of Game 3 went on to win the series 82% of the time.

Feeding off the energy of a Garden crowd that jeered Green throughout his miserable night in the first NBA Finals game in Boston since 2010, the Celtics started fast and led by as many as 18 points in the first half.

Coming off a Game 2 loss in which Boston turned the ball over 19 times, the Celtics' ball movement was much crisper in the half court, which led to open perimeter shots, favorable 1-on-1 matchups and driving lanes..

It left the Warriors scrambling at times, which contributed to three foul calls on Curry in the opening 24 minutes.

But as well as Boston played, it had its early lead erased in the third quarter by a Warriors seven-point possession that included a four-point play by Curry when he drew a flagrant 1 foul on Horford and 3-pointer by Otto Porter Jr to put Golden State in front 83-82.

Boston recovered to take a 93-89 edge into the fourth, then outscored Golden State 23-11 in the quarter.

The Celtics led 56-39 before an 8-0 spurt in just 37 seconds by the Warriors trimmed the lead to 56-49 on a layup by Curry with 3:32 left in half. Boston flurried at the end of the half to take a 68-56 lead into halftime.

NBA Finals, season on schedule thanks to replacement players

By TIM REYNOLDS
AP BASKETBALL WRITER

Adam Silver was on his phone constantly in late December. At that time, the NBA had more than 100 players sidelined by virus-related issues, along with some head coaches, assistant coaches, referees and team staffers.

The NHL had just paused its season. The NBA commissioner wondered if his league would follow suit.

"I was very concerned," Silver said. "And we had numerous discussions with our governors about whether we were doing the right thing."

With a lot of help from dozens of newly signed players, some of whom might already be forgotten, the NBA played on.

It could be argued the untold MVP's of this season were the more than 100 players signed to short-term hardship contracts to fill in when almost every team was decimated by the Omicron variant and other virus issues in December and January.

Those fill-ins kept the season from veering off the rails. And they're really why the NBA Finals matchup between the Boston Celtics and Golden State Warriors is being played exactly as planned when the schedule was being put together last summer.

"I think that everyone understood that if we did have to pause the season, it would have a huge potential economic impact on the league as well or force players and the league to have to move into the summer, which is not ideal," Silver told The Associated Press. "So, without those players, we wouldn't be here today."

Around the league, 605 players — a record — got into at least one game during the regular season, up 12% from last season. There were 633 players who were known to be under contract at some point, up 15% from last season's figure.

And when the variant was at its worst, the league was at its busiest: over a 10-day span of late December, 93 different 10-day contracts were signed.

"Strangest season I've been a part of so far," 19-year NBA veteran LeBron James of the Los Angeles Lakers said during the season. "I don't want to just talk about the injuries but COVID protocols. You have guys go out for false positives. You have had guys go out for real reasons. ... We've had a little bit of everything."

To put how many players were needed in some perspective, consider that over a five-season span — 1982-83 through 1986-87 — the Celtics used a total of 27 players.

This season, they used 28.

And that doesn't count four Celtics who were signed and never got into a game. The Celtics' total of 32 players who were under contract — some very briefly — at some point this season was the highest in the NBA, one more than Portland and two more than Indiana, Milwaukee, and New Orleans.

"Obviously to play basketball during unprecedented times the last two years has been tough for individuals, families, etc.," Boston guard Jaylen Brown said. "But I think the NBA and the players association have done as good a job as possible to keep things going and to accommodate everything as best they possibly can. There's been ups and downs. There's been questions, things that haven't made sense. But I still give credit where credit is due."

The NBA had to postpone a total of 11 games that were originally slated from mid-to-late December, and the rescheduling of those forced eight other games to be shifted in order to keep teams from playing in overly adverse circumstances like having three games in three nights.

Otherwise, games were played like normal. Only it wasn't normal.

"A global pandemic was not something you'd expect would be part of a season," Miami coach Erik Spoelstra said. "But it was, and it is, and it got people to find some solutions and keep working."

Former NBA All-Stars such as Joe Johnson — who made his only shot attempt in his one-game appearance with the Celtics — and Isaiah Thomas were called back to the league to help amid the depletions. The Warriors' Quinndary Weatherspoon got to make his season debut on Christmas Day.

"Surreal," he said.

Washington signed center Jaime Echenique and he played three unremarkable minutes; no points, no stats of any sort. But he made history, becoming the first Colombian to appear in an NBA game.

"If I'm dreaming, don't wake me up," Echenique said.

It's the players like Echenique who kept the season going. The schedule that the league drafted nearly a year ago — long before Omicron, long before anyone knew what the season would bring and how the virus would go — had Monday listed as a travel day for the NBA Finals teams before Games 2 and 3.

The Celtics and Warriors are traveling Monday — as scheduled.

The NBA is about to make it through a season as planned, thanks to some former All-Stars and more than a few players who weren't household names.

"I know Chris Paul, for example, made the point in one of our meetings of saying what an incredible debt of gratitude we owe to these players," Silver told AP. "And he even was reminding his other NBA players, 'Don't forget to thank those players.' We were relying on a terrific group of outside advisors made up of top doctors and scientists who were predicting that if we could tough it out for a few weeks, we'd be able to make it through.

"But without the service, largely of those G league players, we wouldn't have been able to do it."

Twins tag Cortes, win 8-1 to stop Yankees' streak at 7

MINNEAPOLIS (AP)—Byron Buxton and Ryan Jeffers homered in the fifth inning, sending Nestor Cortes to an early exit as the Minnesota Twins cruised to an 8-1 victory Wednesday night that stopped the New York Yankees' winning streak at seven.

Cortes (5-2) allowed season highs in hits (seven) and runs (four) over 4 2/3 innings, his shortest appearance of the year knocking him out of the major league ERA lead. It was the first time in 20 starts that he gave up more than three runs, falling one short of the longest such streak in team history.

Chris Archer (1-2) picked up his first victory for the Twins in his team-leading 11th start, completing five innings with only two hits allowed.

Minnesota rookie Jose Miranda had a career-high three hits and matched his previous best with three RBIs, contributing one of the five singles in the fourth inning the Twins used to get Cortes off track. Miranda is 8 for 16 with seven RBIs in his last four starts.

AP

Minnesota Twins' Byron Buxton flies out to New York Yankees right fielder Giancarlo Stanton during the first inning of a baseball game Wednesday, June 8, 2022, in Minneapolis.

Red Sox 1, Angels 0

In Anaheim, Calif., the Los Angeles Angels' losing streak reached a franchise-record 14 games when Bobby Dalbec drove in the only run with a double in the sixth inning for Boston.

Nathan Eovaldi (4-2) pitched five innings of six-hit ball with five strikeouts in Boston's season-high seventh consecutive victory. With their second 1-0 win in three days at the Big A, the Red Sox remained perfect in June and on their 10-game West Coast trip (6-0).

With another lifeless offensive performance, the Angels dropped to 0-2 under interim manager Phil Nevin, who replaced Joe Maddon on Tuesday. The Halos' baffling skid is now longer than the previous team record set across the final 12 games of 1988 and the 1989 season opener.

Los Angeles was 24-13 and in first place in the AL West on May 15, but the Angels have gone 3-18 since with a simultaneous collapse of their injury-plagued lineup and their perpetually poor pitching staff.

Matt Strahm got two outs for his third save, completing a stellar performance by five pitchers who didn't walk a batter in Boston's third shutout in five games.

Dodgers 4, White Sox 1

In Chicago, Tony Gonsolin improved to 7-0, tossing three-hit ball over six innings, and Will Smith and Cody Bellinger homered early to lead Los Angeles over Chicago.

Smith hit a two-run drive in the first inning and Bellinger made it 3-0 when he connected leading off the second against Johnny Cueto (0-3), who dropped his third straight start.

Gonsolin struck out five and walked one while lowering his National League-best ERA to 1.58. The only run he allowed was when Jake Burger homered leading off the fifth.

Trea Turner homered leading off the ninth, and the NL West-leading Dodgers snapped a three-game skid. Daniel Hudson earned his fifth save.

Rays 11, Cardinals 3

In St. Petersburg, Fla., Randy Arozarena had three hits and four RBIs against his original team to help Tampa Bay beat St. Louis.

Arozarena, the 2021 AL Rookie of the Year, was a St. Louis prospect with 19 games of major league experience when he was obtained from the Cardinals in a January 2020 trade. He had an RBI double in the first inning and a two-run single in the seventh to pace an 18-hit outburst for the Rays.

Veteran catcher Yadier Molina pitched a scoreless eighth for St. Louis, entering to cheers from red-clad Cardinals fans in a crowd of 12,906. He received a standing ovation when he struck out pinch-hitter Isaac Paredes.

Vidal Bruján had three RBIs, and Ji-Man Choi and Harold Ramírez drove in two runs apiece for Tampa Bay.

Corey Kluber (3-2) shut down the Cardinals for five innings before fading quickly in the sixth. Tyler O'Neill, who had a solo homer off Kluber in the fourth, chased the two-time AL Cy Young Award winner with a two-run single that trimmed the Cardinals' deficit to 5-3.

Braves 13, Athletics 2

In Atlanta, Michael Harris gave Atlanta the lead with a two-run triple in the fifth inning that spoiled Jared Koenig's major league debut, and the surging Braves beat skidding Oakland.

Ian Anderson (5-3) pitched six solid innings and the Braves rallied from a 2-0 deficit for the second straight night to sweep the two-game series and extend their season-best winning streak to seven. The A's have lost eight straight and 11 of 13.

The 28-year-old Koenig (0-1) led 2-1 through four innings after completing his long path to the majors that included spending the 2017-19 seasons in independent leagues. The 6-foot-5 lefthander didn't get an out in the fifth.

Austin Riley's two-run homer off Domingo Acevedo extended the lead to 5-2. William Contreras, Ozzie Albies and Duvall also homered in Atlanta's 13-hit outburst.

Phillies 10, Brewers 0

In Milwaukee, Aaron Nola pitched eight sharp innings and surging Philadelphia hit four home runs to rout scuffling Milwaukee.

The Phillies won their season-high sixth in a row, five of them since interim manager Rob Thomson took over when Joe Girardi was fired on Friday.

The NL Central-leading Brewers have lost a season-worst five straight. Milwaukee has totaled six runs during its skid and been shut out three times.

Phillies rookie Bryson Stott went 4 for 4 with a home run and double. Bryce Harper, Rhys Hoskins and Odúbel Herrera also homered for the Phillies. Kyle Schwarber added four hits, two of them doubles.

Nola (4-4), the NL leader in strikeouts, allowed four hits, walked none and fanned six.

Mariners 6, Astros 3

In Houston, Cal Raleigh and Ty France homered early and Seattle finally won a series in Houston.

The Mariners took two of three from their AL West rivals to win their fourth consecutive series overall and first in Houston since September 2018. Seattle went 1-16 at Minute Maid Park from 2019-20.

The Mariners trailed by two in the fourth when Raleigh homered for the second time this series, a shot off José Urquidy (5-3) to tie it at 3. France connected later in the inning for a solo drive that put Seattle ahead.

Logan Gilbert (6-2) allowed seven hits and three runs in six innings. Diego Castillo struck out the side in the ninth for his fourth save.

Tigers 3, Pirates 1

In Pittsburgh, Miguel Cabrera hit a go-ahead single in the eighth inning and Detroit completed a two-game sweep of Pittsburgh.

Daz Cameron drove in two runs with a triple in the second inning and a double in the ninth. The Tigers bounced back after getting swept by the Yankees and won for the seventh time in 11 games.

Will Vest (1-1) worked a perfect seventh inning. Gregory Soto pitched out of a jam in the ninth for his 12th save.

Jack Suwinski hit his seventh home run for the Pirates, tops among National League rookies, but the offense mustered little else against Alex Faedo and four relievers. Pittsburgh managed just four hits, three of them singles.

Royals 8, Blue Jays 4

In Kansas City, Mo., MJ Melendez and Emmanuel Rivera drove in two runs apiece, leading Brady Singer and the Kansas City Royals over Toronto to end a three-game losing streak.

Singer allowed homers to Raimel Tapia and Zack Collins but only one other run in five innings. He improved to 3-1 in five starts while the rest of the Kansas City rotation is 3-25 in 50 combined starts.

The Royals pounced on erratic Blue Jays starter Yusei Kikuchi, who retired only two batters while walking four and serving up two hits that ultimately cost him three first-inning runs. That was two more than Kansas City had scored in its last four games against the Blue Jays, including a pair of shutouts to start the series.

Toronto briefly tied the game 3-all before Trevor Richards (2-1) allowed three more runs in the fourth and fifth.

Marlins 2, Nationals 1, 10 innings

In Miami, Sandy Alcantara pitched nine scoreless innings, Jesús Aguilar hit a game-ending single in the 10th and Miami beat Washington.

Alcantara extended his scoreless string to 18 innings and has completed at least eight innings in four of his past five starts. The 26-year-old allowed six hits and struck out six while lowering his ERA to 1.61.

Aguilar's smash against reliever Tanner Rainey (1-2) deflected off second base and rolled into center field, scoring Willians Astudillo from second. Astudillo's single scored automatic runner Jazz Chisholm Jr. from second to tie it.

Guardians 4, Rangers 0

In Cleveland, José Ramírez hit a run-scoring double to tie for the major league lead in RBIs, Shane Bieber pitched neatly into the fifth inning before a long rain delay and Cleveland blanked Texas.

Ramírez went 2 for 4 with a stolen base and his 54th RBI of the season, matching Mets star Pete Alonso.

Andrés Giménez had two doubles and an RBI as the Guardians moved back to .500 for the second time this week.

The nine-inning game was completed in just 2:07, matching the total time of the two rain delays.

Eli Morgan (2-1) worked 1 2/3 perfect innings when play resumed.

Diamondbacks 7, Reds 0

In Cincinnati, Merrill Kelly allowed one hit over six innings and Arizona hit three homers against Cincinnati, snapping a four-game skid.

Christian Walker hit a two-run drive and Josh Rojas and Jordan Luplow added solo shots for the Diamondbacks, who stopped a 26-inning scoreless streak with a five-run eighth in Tuesday's 14-8 loss to the Reds.

The first pitch was delayed 1 hour, 40 minutes, by rain.

One night after launching five home runs and piling up 16 hits, Cincinnati managed just a double and four singles against Kelly (5-3) and three relievers.

Padres 13, Mets 2

In San Diego, Jake Cronenworth homered, doubled, singled and had five RBIs, and Sean Manaea pitched seven strong innings to beat former teammate Chris Bassitt in San Diego's rout of New York.

Jurickson Profar drove in three runs and scored three for the Padres, whose 13 runs were a season high. Manny Machado had two RBI doubles. Cronenworth and Kim Ha-seong also scored three runs apiece for San Diego, which has won five of six.

The Mets lead the National League at 38-21 even after dropping two of three in San Diego, their third series loss this season. They committed three errors and were without slugger Pete Alonso and outfielder Starling Marte, who were injured in a 7-0 loss Tuesday night.

Giants 2, Rockies 1, 10 innings

In San Francisco, Donovan Walton scored on an error by right fielder Charlie Blackmon in the 10th inning, lifting San Francisco over Colorado.

Luis González's slow single off Carlos Estevez (1-3) eluded Blackmon — who threw out a runner at the plate earlier. Walton rounded third, then scampered home with the winning run.

Mike Yastrzemski had three hits and Thairo Estrada added an RBI single for the Giants.

The Rockies matched a franchise record by going 31 consecutive games without back-to-back wins.

Sports photographer adds to credentials

By MARK RABAGO
mark_rabago@saipantribune.com
ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Jonathan Ibajan, who is a volunteer photographer for many sports events on island, recently graduated from the New York Institute of Photography's professional photography course.

A civil designer by trade, Ibajan said he took the photography courses online so he could enhance his skills in his chosen hobby.

"It helped me build my confidence and my knowledge is way better than before. I'm thankful that I took this course and I can use also my skill not just in my personal hobby but in my workplace as well," he said.

Ibajan, who is originally from Biliran Island in the Philippines, said photography has opened a lot of possibilities for him on the island. It also allowed him to meet new friends and make the subjects of his keen eye happy with the images he produces.

"I'm still working as a civil designer in my company, but if I have to answer why I should change my career to photography in the future, I would say photography will give you the freedom to enjoy your environment because you will travel from place to place. You also meet different people and express your ideas, creativity, and imagination in a limitless way."

Those who want to follow his lead and enroll at New York Institute of Photography or any other school that caters to the hobby should do so, according to Ibajan.

"It's not hard as long as you understand your lessons and study well. It's about balancing your time and focus. The study involved exams each lesson, assignments on different subjects, and topics which will be graded after submission. You just need to understand all the lessons and pass the exam."

CONTRIBUTED PHOTO

Volunteer photographer Jonathan Ibajan enjoys his hobby at the American Memorial Park.

Ibajan said his dalliance with cameras and photography started about 10 years ago.

"When I was working in the Philippines, curiosity led me to try photography and by then I started to learn little by little. Until I decided to take the professional level course myself. I still remember I was using an entry-level camera at that time without knowing how expensive photography is at a professional level."

Asked what he gets from being a volunteer sports photographer, Ibajan said it's all because of the sports community and how they've embraced him as one of their down.

"As long as I have time, no rush, and deadline on my work, I'll be there to take pictures and share it on my social media account. And I'm thankful to my fellow volunteer photographers and the organizer of the event especially [Run Saipan president] Edward Dela Cruz Jr. and [Northern Marianas Athletics secretary general] Robin Sapong for always informing/messaging me if they have future events and activities."

Aside from sports events, Ibajan said he's also fond of taking photos of Saipan's unspoiled nature.

"I love taking nature and wildlife photos. Mostly birds, I have photos of different birds on the island and I'm so happy and thrilled that I have captured most of them and I hope one day I can make a book and share it to the community. Most importantly, I want to share it to our new generation because some of the birds are endangered and I hope my photobook will help give them knowledge on what kind of species we have in the past and how beautiful they were."

Ibajan's works can be viewed at ww.jibajanphotography.com.

PHARMIN

From Page 24

min was more adjusted in his next event, the 110m hurdles, which contributed largely to his gold medal finish.

"As for the 110m hurdles, I felt warmer and felt good running over the hurdles and glad I secured gold in this event for the CNMI. I'm happy I got medals for the CNMI today and hoping I can get more tomorrow and day after as well, because I will still be competing on those days," he added.

Pharmin said winning a gold and a silver medal in the 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships wouldn't have been possible without his faith.

"I'm managing it one day at a time through God's blessings and doing what I can do to help our CNMI through athletics. Aside from the God, my son, Darrion Joseph, my families, and my sponsor Latte Built Fitness, I dedicate my 60m run to Tyrone Omar and my 110m hurdles to my coach, Elias Rangamar," he said, while also thanking Northern Marianas Athletics for sending him to Australia.

Tan settled for a silver in her favorite 5,000m run after crossing the finish line in 19:31.01.

"I didn't race it smart. My time was way off my personal record. I should've gone out faster but it's okay, each race is a learning lesson!" she told *Saipan Tribune*.

The Fordham University standout's PR in the event is 18:50.

Cabrera, for her part, came in third in the U18 3,000m event with a time of 13:23.29. The incoming Saipan International School senior was pretty excited about her podium finish.

"Overall I feel relieved and happy I got a medal to take home and I'm satisfied with my race and meeting everyone from different places was a great experience. This race taught me to push myself more and learn from my mistakes!"

Aside from the three, Michael Mancao also took part in the 3,000m steeplechase and 800m run yesterday, running a 13:10.23 and 2:22.61, respectively.

"I have mixed emotions about how I did in my two events. For the 3,000m steeplechase, I was happy I did it and I remember why it's such a gruesome event. Definitely have to do more training on it to drop my times. For the 800m, I held a very steady pace for the first 400m about a 1:03, but coming to the last lap, my body started to get tight toward the last 200m curve. I hope on the next race, the 800m race is the first race I do. Maybe, I could've dropped my time lower if that was the case," he said.

CNMI national athletics coach Dr. Ron Snyder said Team CNMI is chugging along fine following yesterday's four-medal haul, albeit he said Pharmin's medals don't count for the team event since he's entered in the masters division.

"Today Tania got a silver and Tiana got a bronze. So, Tania has earned 18 points for the team, Tiana has earned seven points and Mike Mancao earned seven points for his two events. Lia [Rangamar] earned four points. That totals 36 points. Zarinae [Sapong] qualified for the 100m but not as a point scorer. Orrin's points don't count since he is running as a masters athlete. They are individual entrants and not considered by the Oceania Athletics Association as part of the team for scoring purposes," he said.

Snyder said Tan's performance in the 5K was impressive considering the hype surrounding the event.

"The 5,000 draws a large crowd of talented athletes and Tania had to race intelligently to do well. She drafted one runner early on and then made a move around the halfway mark to take the second place position. She will have competition from a U20 athlete in the Mini Games who outkicked her in the end, but I am confident she has a good strategy to beat her next time."

Sapong finished the 100m with a time of 13.04 and the 200m in 27.64. Rangamar's longest throw in the javelin, meanwhile, was 30.29m.

Pharmin is at it again today as he will compete in the masters events for the javelin, shotput, 100m, and 400m.

CNMI

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the payoff period, but their repeated rally attempts were thwarted by some timely shooting from the women in white as they held on to the 21-point win.

Sisters E'Anna and Ky'Sonna Won led the now 1-1 CNMI with 21 and 17 points, respectively. Palau, which fell to 1-1 following an opening day win over the Federated States of Micronesia, was paced by the 16 markers of Kristen Sugiyama.

Northern Mariana Islands Basketball Federation president James Lee liked what he saw in the women's nationals' game against Palau.

"Against Team Palau was a good match up to see where we truly stand given that it's an even match up. They started off slow but they eventually found their flow. They definitely need to minimize the turnovers. Overall, I'm happy and proud of our ladies," he said.

While the women kept their gold medal-chances alive with the win over Palau, the same cannot be said of the CNMI Men's National Team after the Joe Diaz-coached squad faded in the fourth quarter against Palau, 72-57.

The CNMI went down early and often and faced deficits of 24-14 after the first 10 minutes of the ballgame and 40-29 at halftime. The visitors gave themselves a chance in the third when their 3-point shooting was working and came as close as 2 points when a triple by Sir-Lashu Dela Cruz made it 44-42 time down to 4:23 in the canto.

They were just down by 7 points, 45-52, heading into the fourth, but ran into a brick wall—or more appropriately a taller and bulkier Palau side—in the fourth and they lost steam in the end.

Anthony Rudi led Palau with 16 points, while Jerry Ngiraremiang and Perry Oiterong chipped in 12 and 11, respectively. Coby Santos was the only consistent scorer for the CNMI as he nearly scored half of the team's points with 27 markers.

Lee was visibly disappointed with the outcome of the men's match against Palau following their Day 1 shellacking against powerhouse Guam, 45-113.

"Our men just need to trust themselves as they would when playing back home. If they can do that then they will be able to showcase everyone what they are truly capable of. So far, what I see is that they've been holding back and lots of hesitation which in turn creates missed shots and unnecessary turnovers."

The NMIBF chief, however, saw a silver lining in the CNMI's second game of the four-day tourney.

"On a positive note, we have a bunch of young athletes in this group which we can grow from and the FIBA Micro Cup tournament is not only a learning experience for them but also to help our federation with the continuous development of the national program," he said.

In other games yesterday, Guam routed FSM, 72-57, in the men's division. Results of Guam-FSM women's game was still unavailable as of press time.

IT&E

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staff and management of the Pacific Mini Games, we really truly appreciate your contribution."

"This is a lot… over $122,000 worth of investment that IT&E facilitated in lieu of having the historical event for the first time ever as we welcome almost 1,800 people which includes athletes and officials, international federation, media, medical team, Pacific Game Association, friends and family supporters of the Pacific Mini Games from South Pacific and Micronesia are coming to our island," Babauta added.

He said, in a away, internet connectivity is the lifeblood of the Games.

"The most crucial part is broadcasting the Games. Livestreaming for everyone that won't be able to make it to the Games and more so the South Pacific nations that will obviously want to watch via YouTube…And also access for our visitors, so as soon as they come in, they have internet Wi-Fi and for them… to communicate [with] their friends and family…As we speak, people are landing already which is very exciting, and obviously the entire island including Rota and Tinian are quite excited… We really appreciate IT&E for stepping up and rising up to the challenge," said Babauta.

Rose Soledad, general manager of IT&E, told Babauta during the ceremony, "We are there as committed partners with you guys since day one, so we are behind you. We're here to support you. Good luck and thank you to all the athletes, it will be an exciting [game] for all of us."

IT&E Marketing manager Natashia Tomokane said their leadership team—general manager Rose Soledad and our CEO Jim Oehlerking—have been very proactive in letting them know that they should be very supportive of the Games.

"Janice Tenorio, who has handled our frontlines, is our manager for customer service. We are very happy to participate as a sponsor. Velma Palacios, who heads our network operations, leads the team who's actually responsible for installing all the infrastructure and making streaming conducive and available for other athletes and online visitors. We've been in the community doing business for over 35 years. We feel we have been through the rough waves with this community and we are very happy to rise up to the challenge with the community. And we understand that there's an overwhelming responsibility to our deployment [of] our support and we're happy to participate as a sponsor," she said.

Celtics beat Warriors 116-100, take 2-1 lead in NBA Finals

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Sports photographer adds to credentials

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Pharmin strikes gold, silver in masters

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

Orrin Pharmin made waves in the masters division of the 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships yesterday by winning not one but two medals in Mackay, Australia.

His two-medal haul is part of the CNMI's four-medal mining spree yesterday as Tania Tan, who gave the CNMI its first gold in the 5-kilometer run earlier this week, and Tiana Cabrera bagged silver and bronze medals in the 10-kilometer run and U18 3,000m run, respectively.

» Tan earns second medal, Cabrera gets bronze in U18

Pharmin, a longtime fixture of the CNMI athletics team, topped the 110m hurdles to give the CNMI its second gold medal of the meet. He earlier earned a silver in the 60m run. Times for both results were not available as of press time.

Pharmin, who lives in As Lito and is an entrepreneur, said he's still adjusting to the cold mornings in the Land Down Under.

"I was still somewhat cold due to the cold morning weather for my 60m. I didn't take off the starting blocks as fast as I would like to, but I picked it up toward the end of the sprint race to secure the silver for the CNMI," he told *Saipan Tribune*.

After his second-place stint in the 60m run, Phar-

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
Orrin Pharmin poses with the CNMI flag and his 110m hurdles gold medal during the event's awards ceremony in the 2022 Oceania Athletics Championships yesterday in Mackay, Australia.

CNMI cage belles bounce back against Palau

» Men's team drop out of gold medal game

By MARK RABAGO
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ASSOCIATE EDITOR

The CNMI Women's National Team redeemed themselves following an opening day loss to powerhouse Guam by routing Palau, 74-53, in Day 2 of the 2022 FIBA Micronesian Cup yesterday at the UOG Calvo Fieldhouse.

The women nationals actually had a rough start as they trailed Belau, 16-15, in the opening 10 minutes of the contest. But the CNMI buckled down to work at the start of the second canto and turned their defense into offense that allowed them to outscore their opponents, 26-15, in the quarter to take a 41-31 spread at the half.

The wards of coach Catherine Attao-Toves continued to keep Palau at bay in the third as they nursed their lead all throughout the period and entered the fourth and final quarter ahead by 11 points, 56-45.

Palau tried to make a game of it in the early goings of

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CONTRIBUTED PHOTO
The CNMI Women's National Team's Ky'Sonna Won in action against Palau in Day 2 of the 2022 FIBA Micronesian Cup yesterday the UOG Calvo Fieldhouse.

IT&E is platinum sponsor for Mini Games

By LEIGH GASES
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CORRESPONDENT

IT&E is the latest business to become a supporter of the Northern Marianas Pacific Mini Games 2022 after announcing yesterday during a check presentation at their new Oleai office that the telecommunications company has jumped in as a platinum sponsor of the quadrennial event.

The Mini Games Organization Committee said IT&E has donated over $122,000 worth of infrastructure resources, equipment, technical support, and other products and services.

It is also providing free Wi-Fi to athletes and officials in all venues, including on Rota and Tinian, along with broadcasting the Mini Games. Additionally, Wi-Fi has been set up at Grandvrio Resort where the athletes will stay for the duration of their stay on Saipan. Connectivity has also been set up at the Pedro P. Tenorio Multi-Purpose Center which serves as the results center for the Games.

Vicente "Ben" Babauta, CEO of MGOC, thanked IT&E for "facilitating fiber optic for our launch of the Mini Games and today we're facilitating the entire nine venues plus Rota [and] Tinian. And so on behalf of the organizing committee, the

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LEIGH GASES
The Mini Games Organizing Committee, led by CEO Vicente "Ben" Babauta, fourth from left, is joined by IT&E general manager Rose Soledad, in black, right of Babauta, Janice Tenorio, IT&E Customer Service & Government Relations manager, middle in blue, IT&E Marketing manager Natashia Tomokane, third from right, and IT&E staff at the new IT&E Oleai branch location, after showcasing the $122,000 amount for their in-kind donations to the Mini Games.